SCGS News Jan 2016 2
SCGS News Feb 2016 8
SCGS News March 2016 14
SCGS News April 2016 20
SCGS News May 2016 26
SCGS News Sept 2016 32
SCGS News Oct 2016 39
SCGS News November 2016 46

Logo Design by Karen Pattee David

# SCGS NEWS

**"Helping You Connect With Your Heritage"**

**Story County Genealogical Society**

**PO Box 692**
**Ames, Iowa**
**50010**

**www.storygenes.com**
**e-mail: storygenes@gmail.com**
**Facebook.com/storygenes**

**January 2016**

**Vol 49, Issue 1**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hope everyone had a Happy Holiday with family and friends.

We have had such interesting and educational speakers last fall (yes it is officially winter – ugh}. I am looking forward to our speakers that have been lined up for the coming year. Learned lots and lots and look forward to learning more.

Found out there are so many ways to complete your genealogy – either thru historical events or going in a different direction. There are so many resources available for us to use and we have such knowledgeable people we can learn from and we don't have to go very far to find these people.

Now need to get my notes organized so can find all this information I have gathered the next time I have a question.

## NEXT PROGRAM

**January 11, 2016—**Jim Lohr: "BillionGraves Links Families"

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**February 8, 2016—**Suzanne Kelly**:** "Sleuthing 30 Years Ago and Now"

**March 14, 2016—**Dr. Laurent Hodges: "Deep Ancestry Genealogy from Personal DNA Analysis"

**April 11, 2016**—Dave Stensland: "Milford Township, Story County, Iowa"

**May 9, 2016 –** Ken Mahler: "Signs of the Times: Towns In Iowa

## INSIDE

**Genealogy Plus. . . . . 2**
**Confederates from Iowa. . . . . 3**
**IGS Announcements. . . . . 4**
**Officers for 2016 . . . . . 5**
**Minutes from last meeting. . . . . 5**

## Genealogy Plus Group

***...taking you to the next level in your family research!***

**Meeting 3rd Wednesday each month at the Ames Public Library**

**Schedule for Jan—May, 2016**

**January 20, 2016:** Confederates from Iowa: A Few Stories Plus My Research Methods—David Cannon, Researcher and Writer (Humanities Iowa).

**February 17, 2016:** Learning Opportunities for Family Researchers—Mary Lohr and Bonnie Samuel.

**March 16, 2016:** Land Records and Family History—Theresa Liewer, President, IGS.

**April 20, 2016:** U. S. and State Census Records—Sharon Avery, Archivist, Iowa Historical Society.

**May 18, 2016:** Heritage Quest: Census, PERSI, Revolutionary War—Mary Lohr, Story County Genealogical Society.

Genealogy Plus is being sponsored by the Story County Genealogy Society and the Ames Public Library. Each class, 3rd Wednesday of each month, is free and open to the public. Classes are 10: 00 AM to noon.

Bring your computer if you like to each session. We will have time at each class for you to explore the skills learned in the session with helpers to assist you too.

Coordinators:
Mary Lohr
Bonnie Samuel

Contact us at storygenes@gmail.com

## GENEALOGY PLUS DECEMBER 16, 2015

On December 16th, about 15 to 20 persons gathered at the Ames Public Library for holiday treats, research, and discussion of genealogical problems and brick walls. Laptops were provided by the Library, and beverages and many kinds of goodies were provided by Story County Genealogy Society (SCGS) members. This included foods from various family and ethnic backgrounds: kringla, fudge, Norwegian and Swedish dainties, and anise cookies, to name a few.

Due to the recent announcement of Ancestry discontinuing its Family Tree Maker (FTM) software, numerous questions were asked about alternative family history programs. FTM will be supported until January 2017, but numerous users are making the change to different software now. SCGS members were available to answer questions and also discuss online storage versus computer storage only. The most critical factor is to have numerous copies of your data and not depend on only one medium. Adequate backup copies should be stored in various places. The most commonly used software programs appear to be Legacy, Roots Magic, and Reunion (for Mac users). Many other programs and numerous online sites exist. Research should be done to see what fits your needs best and satisfies your comfort level of online versus computer storage. It is not a matter of "one size fits all". Marilyn Peterson

**Co-Sponsoring**

# Genealogy Plus!

The Ames Public Library and the Story County Genealogical Society has received funding from **Humanities Iowa**, a private, non-profit state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, to host a special presentation at Genealogy Plus:

## "Confederates from Iowa"
## Speaker: David Connon, Researcher and Writer

**Wednesday, January 20th, 10 am to noon**
**Ames Public Library Auditorium**

A cultural resource for Iowans since 1971, Humanities Iowa offers many cultural and historical programs and grants to Iowa's communities.

**More about "Confederates from Iowa"…**76,500 Iowans fought for the Union, but very few fought for the South. Why? Iowans had varied views on slavery, to abolish or not. Race riots did happen in Iowa and Abolitionists were at work in our state. Many had family and friends in the southern states too.

Genealogy Plus is most pleased to welcome David Connon as our January speaker. Mr. Connon will explore the pre-war, war-time and post-war experiences of Iowans, discussing why some joined the Confederate Army, as well as describing the records available of Iowa soldiers on both sides of the conflict. (Note: the records kept in Iowa were the same or similar to those kept in other states and offer valuable information to your family research.)

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Genealogy Plus is a genealogical education series featuring great speakers, knowledgeable and expert on genealogical research process, as well as historical events and documents. This is a free series, helping family researchers take their genealogy to the next level! Meets 3rd Wed. of the month, September –May.

***For more information: Mary Logsdon, APL, 515-239-5646 or Bonnie Samuel, 515-203-1056; www.storygenes.com/genealogy-plus***
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

## IGS Announcements

**The IGS Members Newsletter is available online at** http://www.iowapioneers.com/Newsletters/2015/2015%20Nov.pdf

**A list of our publications that we have for sale is available on AncestorStuff.com.** Visit www.ancestorstuff.com for a list of over 27,000 items from not only IGS but from all over the world.

++++++++

December 2015

We sadly share the following obituary with you.

Des Moines, Iowa. Having faithfully served the genealogical community for almost 13 years, Heating Unit #1 of the Iowa Genealogical Society died in late November 2015. It will be missed by all. It began failing in early November and by the end of the month, the heating professionals removed life support, saying that it was unsafe. It is survived by its twin, Heating Unit #2, which continues to bear the burden of providing heat to the library, and cousins Units # 3,4,5 and 6 which support the remaining areas of the building.
In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to the Iowa Genealogical Society, 628 East Grand, Des Moines, IA 50309. Interment and replacement costs are estimated to be approximately $8,000. The family is working with Mid American Energy to defray part of these costs.

Despite the attempt to bring humor to this situation, it is a serious need of the Iowa Genealogical Society. The Board of Directors voted to replace the unit at its recent meeting.

We have obtained multiple estimates to achieve the best price and the most efficient unit available and to ensure we qualify for a Mid American rebate. We will continue maintenance on the remaining units to maximize their life expectancy. The increased efficiency will also provide estimated savings of $350 per year.
Please consider sending your donation to fund the replacement.

Sincerely,
Theresa Liewer, President
Jennifer Ewing, Executive Director

## Federation of Genealogist (FGS) National Conference

The FGS 2016 National Conference will be in Springfield, IL, August 31 to September 3, 2016.
https://www.fgsconference.org/

Time Travel: Centuries of Memories
A conference for the nation's genealogists
Exceptional Speakers
Network with other researchers
Exhibit hall filed with vendors
Take in amazing sites and sounds of Illinois' capitol city

**NEHGS (New England Historic Genealogical Society) located in Boston, MA**

Here's to new beginnings! NEHGS has the resources, experts, and services you need to make 2016 a great year for your family history research.

To celebrate the New Year, starting December 30, and lasting throughout the month of January, they are offering FREE access to several popular databases on ***AmericanAncestors.org*** to their guest users--with additional resources to help you further your genealogical research. If you're already a guest user, take advantage of this month-long celebration. And share the news with your friends!

***Finding Your Roots***
Returning to Iowa Public Television
January 5, 2016
7:00 PM
Copied from IPTV *Advance*

## Bad Weather Policy

If Ames schools are cancelled because of weather on the day of the monthly SCGS meeting, the meeting will be cancelled and the announcement posted on SCGS Face book page and website.

## Story County Genealogical Society elects 2016 Officers

Katie Pattee, Secretary; Nancy Long, President; Luanne Endreland, Publicity; Mary Ausborn, Treasurer; Paul Martsching, Historian; Mary Lohr, Librarian; Buckley Peterson, Newsletter; Bonnie Samuel, Vice President.

**MINUTES from Nov 9, 2015, Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 in the Ames Public Library auditorium by President Nancy Long. There were 17 members and one guest present.

Members brought holiday snacks that were enjoyed throughout the evening. Some members also displayed handmade ancestry-themed quilts, books, and family tree posters. There were several Scandinavian holiday books for all to see as well.

**Reports:** The October minutes were approved as written and the treasurer's report was given by Mary Ausborn.

Mary Lohr asked that if anyone has suggestions for books to purchase, to please let her know. A book order will be submitted in January for spring delivery.

The November Genealogy Plus talk will be on farm progress, focusing on transitions from the Civil War to the 1900's.

**New Business:** Officers were elected for the upcoming 2016 year. The officers will be: President – Nancy Long, Vice President – Bonnie Samuel,

*Cont'd next col*

Treasurer – Mary Ausborn, Secretary – Katie Pattee, Historian – Paul Martsching, Publicity – Luanne Endreland, and Newsletter – Buckley and Marilyn Peterson

**Announcements:** Opportunities to attend various classes were announced, including a tombstone cleaning class next May and a November 14th Swedish workshop.

Dues for the upcoming year can be paid to Mary Ausborn beginning at our next meeting in January.

The meeting was adjourned.

Elaine Larson

**2016 OFFICERS**

| | |
|---|---|
| **President** | **Nancy Long** |
| **Treasurer** | **Mary Ausborn** |
| **Vice President** | **Bonnie Samuel** |
| **Historian** | **Paul Martsching** |
| **Publicity** | **Luanne Endreland** |
| **Librarian** | **Mary Lohr** |
| **Secretary** | **Katie Pattee** |
| **Newsletter Editors** | **Buckley/Marilyn Peterson** |

Logo Design by
Karen Pattee David

## STORY COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

**Send Membership dues to PO Box 692, Ames, IA 50010**
**Or pay the Treasurer at a SCGS meeting.**
**Make checks payable to Story County Genealogical Society.**

**Membership is ____$10 per person OR____$15 per family each year**

**Dues paid after April 1 will be for balance of the calendar year**

**MEMBER OF IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY_____YES**

**NAME:**_____

**ADDRESS:**_____

**CITY:**_____**STATE:**_____

**PHONE:**_____**E-MAIL:**_____

***SCGS NEWS***

**Story County Genealogical Society**

**PO Box 692**

**Ames IA 50010**

Logo Design by Karen Pattee David

# SCGS NEWS

**"Helping You Connect With Your Heritage"**

**Story County Genealogical Society**

**PO Box 692**
**Ames, Iowa**
**50010**

**www.storygenes.com**
**e-mail: storygenes@gmail.com**
**Facebook.com/storygenes**

**February 2016**

**Vol 49, Issue 2**

## PRESDENT'S MESSAGE

We had a fantastic turn out for our January meeting in spite of the cold winter weather, must have been the speaker and his subject. Even though there were technical difficulties, everyone listened intently to Jim Lohr's presentation and there were lots of questions. I have really found cemeteries informative and interesting. Thank you Jim for the service you provided and the extra you did to complete your task.

Since it is way too cold and snowy to do any cemetery exploring for a few months we will concentrate our research in other ways. We can always use the internet, Libraries and the best of all personal contact. We have some excellent speakers and subject matter lined up for the rest of the year and look forward to hearing what they will be sharing with us. Also welcome comments and suggestions from each and every one of you, so feel free to share your suggestions.

I know my brother was told a couple weeks ago that the house we grew up in and where he still lives was moved to the spot where it sits now. We want to find out if that is true or not and if true, where was it moved from. There is always a question that needs an answer.

Just wanted to thank Elaine for serving as Secretary the last couple of years and Martha as Historian for several years. Good job ladies and thank you for your service

Keep warm and hopefully the weather for our February meeting is better. *Nancy Long*

## NEXT PROGRAM (6:30 PM)

**February 8, 2016—**Suzanne Kelly**:** "Sleuthing 30 Years Ago and Now"

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**March 14, 2016—**Dr. Laurent Hodges: "Deep Ancestry Genealogy from Personal DNA Analysis"

**April 11, 2016**—Dave Stensland: "Milford Township, Story County, Iowa"

**May 9, 2016 –** Ken Mahler: " Signs of the Times: Towns In Iowa

## INSIDE

**Minutes from last meeting. . . . . .2**
**A Billion Graves with Jim Lohr. . . . . 2**
**Genealogy Plus. . . . . .3**
**David Connon (Iowans in Civil War) . . . . 3**
**IGS Announcements. . . . . 4**
**New Books at the Library . . . . . .5**

## Minutes from Jan 11, 2016 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. in the Ames Public Library auditorium by President Nancy Long. There were 17 members and 9 guests present.

Those attending introduced themselves by stating which ancestor they would like to have Christmas dinner with and why – a fun and wide spectrum of intros.

Reports: The November minutes as printed in the newsletter were approved as printed.

The treasurer's report was given by Mary Lohr for Mary Ausborn and the balance as of December 31, 2015 was $3344.72.

Mary Lohr, Librarian, will submit a book order of 20 titles to the Library to be purchased jointly this spring. We have a memorial fund of $150 to add to this purchase which should result in all those on the list being purchased.

Paul Martsching, Historian, reported that there are some gaps in the Newsletter collection and he is compiling the list of our current holdings.

Mary Lohr reported that we have a request from The Rose Home for a presentation on genealogy. She asked for two helpers to present this on possibly Tuesday, February 23rd to help residents prepare their pedigree charts and life stories.

Genealogy Plus: January 20, 2016 the program will be on Confederates from Iowa by David Connon.

New Business: President Nancy requested an auditing committee and Merlene Whisenand, Patricia Sawyer and Luanne Enderland volunteered.

Announcements: Nancy Long told of the "Map of My Kingdom" to be presented by the Practical Farmers of Iowa January 29th at the Gateway Conference Center in Ames. There is no charge, and it will be about farmers and their land. Marti Steelman told of a spring conference re the Glenwood Cemetery restoration in Decorah – more details in the next newsletter.
The meeting was adjourned.

Jim Lohr gave a program on "BillionGraves Links Families." He has volunteered many hours to photograph thousands of gravestones simultaneously with their GPS location in the Ames and Story County cemeteries. This information may be accessed through storygenes.com

Katie Pattee, secretary

+ + + + + +

## *BILLIONGRAVES* LINKS FAMILIES

Presentation by Jim Lohr, SCGS meeting, January 11, 2016

At the January meeting of Story County Genealogical Society (SCGS), Jim Lohr gave an excellent presentation on *BillionGraves.com*. The website was started in Utah and is indexed on *FamilySearch.org*. Unlike other search sites, it has a GPS function that pinpoints where a gravestone is located. All work is done by volunteers, and in the last several years Jim has photographed 35,000 gravesites in Story County and uploaded them to *BillionGraves*. The SCGS website (*www.storygenes.com*) has Jim's PowerPoint presentation, the number of gravesites he recorded in each cemetery, and a listing of "hard to find" cemeteries in Story County. Some cemeteries have been well kept and others have not. Jim also gave instructions for using *BillionGraves.com*, which includes a search function, maps of cemeteries, and a guide for establishing relationships and finding other family members.

**BillionGraves** Cont'd on Pg 3

***BillionGraves** Cont'd from Pg 2*

"Are you aware that Billy Sunday (well-known athlete and evangelist; 1862-1935) is buried in an Ames cemetery?," Jim asked. It is sometimes called the Sunday or Cory Cemetery and is located next to the Ames Dog Park. Jim gave his reasons for participating in this volunteer project, in part inspired by his wife Mary's genealogy work and interests. He showed examples of what he found on stones--unusual names, interesting scenes, and inscriptions or unique shapes. In 2014, his efforts were featured in an *Ames Tribune* article at the point when he had completed his first 11,000 uploads.

He encouraged everyone to make arrangements for their own burial and to take children and grandchildren to visit the cemeteries. Thanks to Jim for sharing his findings and enthusiasm for such a worthwhile genealogical project.

## REMEMBER THE WEBSITE

www.storygenes.com
http://sites.google.com/site/storygenealogy
Or the shortened URL
http://goo.gl/HFOJqM

## GENEALOGY PLUS
**Iowans Who Fought Against the Union**
January 20, 2016
Speaker: David Connon

At the January Genealogy Plus session, David Connon, speaker for Humanities Iowa, independent researcher, and writer, spoke on *Iowans who fought for the Confederacy*. Though 76,500 Iowans fought for the Union, he found 74 who fought for the south and reported in detail on three of them. His research sought to answer why there were so few, but in some cases the documentation was inconclusive.

**Connon** Cont'd on Pg 5,

## Genealogy Plus Group

***...taking you to the next level in your family research!***

**Meeting 3rd Wednesday each month at the Ames Public Library**

**Schedule for Feb—May, 2016**

**February 17, 2016:** Learning Opportunities for Family Researchers—Mary Lohr and Bonnie Samuel.

**March 16, 2016:** Land Records and Family History—Theresa Liewer, President, IGS.

**April 20, 2016:** U. S. and State Census Records—Sharon Avery, Archivist, Iowa Historical Society.

**May 18, 2016:** Heritage Quest: Census, PERSI, Revolutionary War—Mary Lohr, Story County Genealogical Society.

Genealogy Plus is being sponsored by the Story County Genealogy Society and the Ames Public Library. Each class, 3rd Wednesday of each month, is free and open to the public. Classes are 10: 00 AM to noon.

Bring your computer if you like to each session. We will have time at each class for you to explore the skills learned in the session with helpers to assist you too.

Coordinators:
Mary Lohr
Bonnie Samuel

Contact us at storygenes@gmail.com

**FAMILY**—Like branches on a tree we all grow in different directions, but our roots remain the same. (From Pinterest; pinned from Etsy.com.)

## IGS Announcements

**A list of our publications that we have for sale is available on AncestorStuff.com.** Visit www.ancestorstuff.com for a list of over 27,000 items from not only IGS but from all over the world.

++++++++

**The Education Committee has some great classes planned for 2016. Check out the calendar at** http://iowagenealogy.org/?page_id=4965&ai1ec

++++++

## HELP!!!

**Now that it has become cold and a bit more winter-like, the need to replace Heating Unit #1 is even more apparent. We are close to our goal but still need some more funds. Would you consider a gift in memory of Heating Unit #1?**

# HELP!!!

## The 2016 IGS Spring Conference

**April 9, 2016**

**Dr. Bryant McAllister,** professor of biology at University of Iowa, will lead the day-long conference on DNA. We are still working on getting the sign up form available online.

***Finding Your Roots***

Henry Louis Gates

Tuesdays 7:00 PM on Iowa Public Television

**Workshop on Monument Preservation**
Decorah Genealogical Society
May 28-29, 2016
Contact ddiggers@decorah.lib.ia.us

+++++

**State Association for the Preservation of Cemeteries (SAPIC)**
A brief overview of the sections of the Iowa Code that pertains to burial sites
http://archaelogy.uiowa.edu/file/731download?token=FkQltAo

+++++

**DISCOUNTS**
IGS members—50% discount on an annual Find My Past subscription; through Federation of Genealogical Societies discount on Dell computers
Contact IGS at 515-276-0287

## Bad Weather Policy

If Ames schools are cancelled because of weather on the day of the monthly SCGS meeting, the meeting will be cancelled and the announcement posted on SCGS Face book page and website.

**Connon** Cont'd from Pg 3

For this study, Mr. Connon defined an Iowa resident as one who lived in Iowa at least two years before the Civil War. The first example, Charles S.D. Jones, lived in Dubuque and grew up in a prominent pro-slavery Democrat family. They were Southerners who had lived in the south and were slave owners. His father served as a U.S. Senator and an ambassador. He lost his Senate seat when the Iowa Democratic party splintered, and the Lincoln administration recalled him from his ambassadorship and replaced him with a Republican. Two other Iowans, John Haps, originally from Holland and who later lived in Keokuk, and William H. Wall, New London, eventually joined confederate units in Mississippi. Research has not documented whether they had confederate leanings before going to Mississippi, but it is known that employment was not good in Iowa, and the South was prospering mainly due to cotton.

Mr. Connan shared the research resources he used: 1) residence--Ancestry.com and Fold3.com. 2) Confederate service--Civil War Soldiers and Sailors database of the National Park Service. Fold3.com (a pay site) has complete compiled service records. 3) Details about the persons--Google books (footnotes and endnotes very important), Google, Ancestry.com, and historical society archives. 4) context and story details--county histories, regimental histories, newspapers, and secondary sources. More information can be found on Mr. Connon's blog: *Confederates from Iowa.com*.

**Magnetized *name tags***
If you are interested , contact
Jack Mauldln (515) 292-2794
fmauldinpw@yahoo.com

## New at the Ames Public Library:

Three genealogy items have recently been added to the circulating collection at the Ames Public Library.

Discovering Your Roots [DVD] : an Introduction to Genealogy with John Philip Colletta (Chantilly, VA: Teaching Company, 2014) Call number 929.1 DVD DIS

How to Use Evernote For Genealogy: a Step-by_Step Guide to Organize Your Research and Boost Your Genealogy Productivity by Kerry Scott (Cincinnati: Family Tree Books, 2015) Call number 929.1 SCO 2015

Unofficial Guide to FamilySearch.org: How to Find Your Family History on The World's Largest Free Genealogy Website by Dana McCullough (Cincinnati: Family Tree Books, 2015) 929.1 MCC 2015

And, for a bonus, if you want an ebook, *Genealogy Online* (10 ed.) by Elizabeth Powell Crowe (McGraw-Hill Education, 2014) (available through the Bridges online system).

## 2016 OFFICERS

| | |
|---|---|
| **President** | **Nancy Long** |
| **Treasurer** | **Mary Ausborn** |
| **Vice President** | **Bonnie Samuel** |
| **Historian** | **Paul Martsching** |
| **Publicity** | **Luanne Endreland** |
| **Librarian** | **Mary Lohr** |
| **Secretary** | **Katie Pattee** |
| **Newsletter Editors** | **Buckley/Marilyn Peterson** |

Logo Design by
Karen Pattee David

## STORY COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

**Send Membership dues to PO Box 692, Ames, IA 50010**
**Or pay the Treasurer at a SCGS meeting.**
**Make checks payable to Story County Genealogical Society.**

**Membership is ____$10 per person OR____$15 per family each year**

**Dues paid after April 1 will be for balance of the calendar year**

**MEMBER OF IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY_____YES____NO**

**NAME:**_____

**ADDRESS:**_____

**CITY:**_____**STATE:**_____

**PHONE:**_____**E-MAIL:**_____

***SCGS NEWS***

**Story County Genealogical Society**

**PO Box 692**

**Ames IA 50010**

Logo Design by Karen Pattee David

# SCGS NEWS

**"Helping You Connect With Your Heritage"**

**Story County Genealogical Society**

PO Box 692
Ames, Iowa
50010

www.storygenes.com
e-mail: storygenes@gmail.com
Facebook.com/storygenes

March 2016

Vol 49, Issue 3

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a fantastic speaker we had for our February meeting. Sure wish the weather would have been better so more could have attended. Suzanne Kelly told us how her 1984-85 Language Arts sixth grade class at Meeker School went about finding answers to their questions and search for the W W 11 survivors of a downed B-17. I went home and started making a list of the things this project taught her students. Here are some of the things I came up with and in no particular order: making out a plan, letter writing, working together, history, reading maps and geography, investigation, thinking things thru, solving a problem, gathering facts, find answers in more than one way, patience (don't give up), making a timeline and following the line of events, recording information, writing stories. Do any or all of these sound like genealogy research to you? Suzanne has written a book about the findings of her sixth grade students which is called **Reaching Beyond the Waves** and I highly recommend it.

Another very rewarding project I am fortunate to be a part of is helping go thru the Genealogy Section at the Library and attempting to weed out books that are no longer useful. Some are easy decisions and some not so much. So much is on the internet today but then many of our books have valuable information. What a fantastic job the past and present librarians have done and are doing. The staff at the Ames Public Library are always very friendly and helpful. We need to give them a big thank you over and over again. There is so much information in that section – we need to promote more. Everyone has found something they didn't know was there and will be coming back to make new discoveries in their genealogy research.

Our speaker for March 14 meeting is Dr. Laurent Hodges and he will be speaking on DNA. A very popular subject now. I am sure we will be learning lots from this presentation also and winter has to be on the way out by then, I hope.

Thank you to the auditing team.

*Nancy Long*

## NEXT PROGRAM (6:30 PM)

**March 14, 2016—**Dr. Laurent Hodges: "Deep Ancestry Genealogy from Personal DNA Analysis"

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**April 11, 2016**—Dave Stensland: "Milford Township, Story County, Iowa"

**May 9, 2016 –** Ken Mahler: " Signs of the Times: Towns In Iowa

## HISTORIAN REPORT

Paul Martsching has reviewed all issues of the SCGS newsletter and has found that 4 issues are missing—February 1982, April 1982, January 1983, and April 1973. If anyone can provide any of these missing copies, it will help the organization to have a complete set.

## INSIDE

**"Sleuthing" Suzanne Kelly. . . . . .2**
**Minutes from last meeting. . . . . .2**
**Genealogy Plus . . . . . 3**
**Tombstone Cleaning Workshop. . . . . 4**
**IGS Announcements . . . . . 4**
**Member Sharing, Luanne Endreland. . . . . 4**
**New Books at the Library . . . . . 4**
**Workshop Registration Form. . . . . .5**

## "Sleuthing Thirty Years Ago and Now"

Suzanne Kelly was a teacher for 42 years, 37 of which were in Ames at Fellows and Meeker schools. She emphasized that teachers are also learners, and she continues to learn. For a book she wrote recently, she used the sleuthing techniques of 30 years ago and those brought about by modern technology, including use of the internet.

Her learning adventure began when she was in 6th grade in Adel, Iowa. Her teacher, Mrs. Jacobson, read the book, *We Thought We Heard the Angels Sing*, by James C. Whittaker, to her class. Whittaker was a co-pilot on a plane that was forced to ditch in the Pacific Ocean in 1942. She loved the book and has read it to her own 6th grade classes ever since.

Later she was diagnosed with a tumor and was away from teaching for a time. When reading the book to her 6th graders, they indicated an interest in learning what happened to the 8 men who were in the plane incident. She told them <u>if</u> she returned, they would see what they could find out. Her students told her <u>when</u> she returned, they would work on it. She did indeed return, and the search began. By the time their search began, it had been 40 years since the incident, and the research was to continue for a decade with other 6th grade classes involved.

Eddie Rickenbacker, famous World War I Ace and Medal of Honor winner, was on the plane that was forced to ditch. Three small rafts were launched in the hope that their chances of being spotted and rescued would be better than if all stayed on one raft. Captain Cherry was in a raft alone, and the others in the remaining two. They were not found for three weeks, and by that time most were near death. One member of the crew died and was buried at sea.

## <u>Minutes from February 8, 2016 Meeting</u>

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. in the Ames Public Library auditorium by President Nancy Long. Sixteen hardy members and guests were present. Those attending introduced themselves by stating what of their attributes, influence, or passion could have been passed down from an ancestor.

Reports: The January minutes printed in the newsletter were approved. The treasurer's report was given by Mary Ausborn and filed for the auditing committee. The 2015 Audit committee reported finding the treasurer's books in order. Mary Lohr, Librarian, reported the books we requested that the Ames Library purchase have been ordered. We will contribute to the cost. Some of our members are conducting a review of all the books in the genealogy section – a long term project.

Bonnie Samuel told of the upcoming Genealogy Plus session on February 17: Learning Opportunities for Family Researchers by Mary Lohr and Bonnie Samuel.

Paul Martsching, Historian, reported that there are four gaps in the Newsletter collection he hopes to locate so that there will be a complete collection.

New Business: President Nancy requested a budget committee and Mary Lohr, Marilyn Peterson and Bonnie Samuel volunteered. Luanne Enderland shared her Statehood and Pioneer certificates from the Iowa Genealogical Society (IGS). She submitted proof that her ancestors settled in Iowa by 1846 for the Statehood certificate and were in Iowa by 1856 for the Pioneer certificate.

The meeting was adjourned.

*Katie Pattee*, Secretary

***Sleuthing**, Cont'd from Pg 2*

The students worked in small groups to make contacts and develop strategies for finding the men and learning what had happened to them. They checked phone books and documents, and with librarians, newspaper reporters, military organizations, and any resource or avenue they could find that could provide information. After hundreds of letters and contacts, they were able to learn something about each of the men. This led to more questions, and they wanted to know more about the rescue, the rescuers, the medical people who had treated them, the military, and all persons who helped after the rescue. They were also interested in what kind of global impact the story had.

Their next logical question was, "Have any of these men been able to see one another since they were rescued and have they ever seen their rescuers again?" This set in motion a plan to put together a reunion, culminating in a gathering called the Rescue Reunion, held in 1985 in Ames, Iowa. Sixteen people were able to attend, including some of the men, rescuers, and family members. The students planned and arranged the reunion with the cooperation of school personnel, their families, and numerous persons who had been involved in the research project through the years. A lot of material, documents, letters, and other kinds of information had been accumulated in the 42 years since the rescue, and Mrs. Kelly has since written a book, *Reaching Beyond the Waves*, about the experience. As an additional follow-up, students who had worked on the project over the decade also came together for a reunion in 2015.

*Marilyn Peterson*

## Genealogy Plus Group

***...taking you to the next level in your family research!***

**Meeting 3rd Wednesday each month at the Ames Public Library**

**Schedule Mar-May 2016**

**March 16, 2016:** "Basics of Land Records Research: On Solid Ground" **Alice Hoyt Veen, CG**

Many of our ancestors were strongly motivated by the desire to acquire property, yet family historians often avoid land ownership research. Identifying and understanding the documents associated with your ancestor's real property is an essential step in understanding your family and can help solve genealogical puzzles. This class explores different types of records associated with land ownership and identifies commonly used land transaction terminology. We'll discuss techniques for locating federal, state and private land records and learn to use and understand what you find. **(Alice Hoyt Veen instead of Theresa Liewer will be the March speaker.)**

**April 20, 2016:** U. S. and State Census Records—Sharon Avery, Archivist, Iowa Historical Society.

**May 18, 2016:** Heritage Quest: Census, PERSI, Revolutionary War—Mary Lohr, Story County Genealogical Society.

## GENEALOGY PLUS, FEB 17, 2016

At the February Genealogy Plus session, two members of the Story County Genealogical Society (SCGS) offered a research "short course," listing websites, blogs, webinars, archives, organizations, and other sites to learn proper research techniques and find genealogical information. Bonnie Samuel and Mary Lohr emphasized the importance of accuracy and documentation, which can lead to other sources. Bonnie's PowerPoint presentation and Mary's listing of *Genealogy Resources for Learning* have been put on the SCGS website (www.storygenes.com) for reference and to benefit those unable to attend. On the main SCGS website page, click on "Learning Opportunities" in the listing on the left. Two sites not included are: *Blog.GeneaWebinarsCalendar* and *www.slideshare.net*.

The Ames Public Library's (APL) genealogical section (second floor, west wall, #929.1) is being updated, and new books are being added. HeritageQuest can be accessed for research through your APL library card. State archives, universities, and state genealogical societies have excellent resources. Many sites are free, thus requiring only your investment of time. Bonnie added another important reminder: write a plan for the research you want to do, including residences, family relationships, occupation, military service, land ownership, and any other important facts you want to learn.

## New at the Ames Public Library:

Three genealogy items have recently been added to the circulating collection at the Ames Public Library.

**Discovering Your Roots [DVD] : an Introduction to Genealogy** with John Philip Colletta (Chantilly, VA: Teaching Company, 2014) Call number 929.1 DVD DIS

**How to Use Evernote For Genealogy: a Step-by Step Guide to Organize Your Research and Boost Your Genealogy Productivity** by Kerry Scott (Cincinnati: Family Tree Books, 2015) Call number 929.1 SCO 2015

**Unofficial Guide to FamilySearch.org: How to Find Your Family History on The World's Largest Free Genealogy Website** by Dana McCullough (Cincinnati: Family Tree Books, 2015) 929.1 MCC 2015

And, for a bonus, if you want an ebook, *Genealogy Online* (10 ed.) by Elizabeth Powell Crowe (McGraw-Hill Education, 2014) (available through the Bridges online system).

## MEMBER SHARING

Three certificates obtainable for ancestors who have lived in the state of Iowa; each certificate priced at $10:

Statehood (settled in or before 1846)
Pioneer (settled in or before 1856)
Century (settled at least 100 years prior to date of application)

The documentation submitted is kept on file at IGS for other persons who may be researching that person.

Luanne Endreland showed two Pioneer Certificates at the February meeting she obtained for members of her family through the IGS.

## IGS Announcements

## The 2016 IGS Spring Conference

**April 9, 2016**

**Dr. Bryant McAllister,** professor of biology at University of Iowa, will lead the day-long conference on DNA. We are still working on getting the sign up form available online.

**We received many condolences on the passing of Heating Unit #1. "He was a good unit, radiating warmth and comfort until his decline."** Although we have replaced Heating Unit #1, "we all know deep in our hearts, that H.U. #1 can never truly be replaced", we are still accepting donations in its memory. Would you please consider a gift in memory of Heating Unit #1?

## WORKSHOP ON TOMBSTONE CLEANING AND RETORATION

Dennis Allen and Cris Nagla from the Iowa Genealogical Society will present a workshop on tombstone cleaning and restoration Saturday, May 14, 2016. The first portion will be a presentation and explanation starting at 9 am at Adams Funeral Home, 502 Douglas Ave. Ames, Iowa.

Following the presentation, the hands-on portion will be an actual cleaning of tombstones at the Ames Municipal Cemetery. In case of inclement weather the cemetery portion will be canceled.
Each person will receive a bucket of supplies which they can use and keep.

*During March registration is open to SCGS members only and the fee is $20.*
*Registration is limited to twenty persons.*

If there are spaces remaining in April, reservations will be open to non-SCGS members and the fee for all registrations after April 1 is $25.

*Payment is required with all registrations. Deadlines for cancellation is May 1, 2016. No refunds after that date. See the registration form on page 5 in this issue.*

# Monument Cleaning Workshop Registration

**presented by Dennis Allen and Cris Nagla**
**Saturday, May 14, 9 AM to noon**

**Presentation at Adams Funeral Home, 502 Douglas Ave., Ames**
**followed by hands-on tombstone cleaning at the Ames Municipal Cemetery**
**Supplies provided**
*****In case of inclement weather, the cemetery portion will not be held*****

**Registration limited to 20 persons**
Registration opens for SCGS Members only March 1
Cost $20 prior to April 1
Registration opens to non-SCGS persons beginning April 1, if spaces available
*Cost for all registrations after April 1 is $25*

**Payment due with registration! No refunds after May 1.**

**Include this form and a check payable to SCGS Workshop. Mail to:**

**Story County Genealogical Society, PO Box 692, Ames, Iowa 50010**

**Cancellations: Call 515-231-6980**

**Name**_____

**Address**_____

_____

**Phone** _____

**Email**_____

Logo Design by
Karen Pattee David

## STORY COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

**Send Membership dues to PO Box 692, Ames, IA 50010**
**Or pay the Treasurer at a SCGS meeting.**
**Make checks payable to Story County Genealogical Society.**

**Membership is ____$10 per person OR____$15 per family each year**

**Dues paid after April 1 will be for balance of the calendar year**

**MEMBER OF IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY_____YES____NO**

**NAME:**_____

**ADDRESS:**_____

**CITY:**_____**STATE:**_____

**PHONE:**_____**E-MAIL:**_____

***SCGS NEWS***

**Story County Genealogical Society**

**PO Box 692**

**Ames IA 50010**

Logo Design by Karen Pattee David

# SCGS NEWS

**"Helping You Connect With Your Heritage"**

**Story County Genealogical Society**

**PO Box 692**
**Ames, Iowa**
**50010**

**www.storygenes.com**
**e-mail: storygenes@gmail.com**
**Facebook.com/storygenes**

**April 2016**

**Vol 49, Issue 4**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We had very good attendance at our March meeting and I am sure that it is because of the subject – DNA and our speaker – Dr. Laurent Hodges. I could tell many of you have done your DNA and know lots about the subject. It sure was very interesting to hear about Dr. Hodges personal analysis. I haven't done anything on DNA so it was very interesting to learn some of the background information that Dr. Hodges gathered on his family. I felt it really reinforced the fact that history and genealogy go hand in hand.

Just want to remind everyone that Paul Martsching, our Historian is still looking for 4 past issues of our newsletter. They are February 1982, April 1982, January 1983 and April 1973. Hope someone can help him out make the history books complete.

There has been much going on with SCGS and plans in the works for the future. Really enjoyed the workshop at The Rose and those who helped certainly did a good job. I love hearing people tell stories about their past. Hopefully they got motivated to write down some of their stories. Going thru the Genealogy section at the Library was very interesting and didn't know we had lots of those books. Of course lunch afterward each session was the reward for the hard work. I will be using that section more in the future. We also have the Monument Cleaning Workshop coming up on May 14. Had my oldest daughter offer to go with me to a cemetery in Boone County that I wanted to check out. Maybe I am getting a little info thru to them.

I am also involved with the Gilbert Historical Society and the Story County Historical Alliance and we are trying to involve kids in history and genealogy so they are preserved for the future.

## NEXT PROGRAM (6:30 PM)

**April 11, 2016**—Dave Stensland: "Milford Township, Story County, Iowa"

## UPCOMING PROGRAM

**May 9, 2016 –** Ken Mahler: "Signs of the Times: Towns In Iowa

## OFFICERS

**President . . . . . .Nancy Long**
**Vice President. . . . . Bonnie Samuel**
**Secretary . . . . . .Katie Pattee**
**Treasurer . . . . . Mary Ausborn**
**Historian.. . . . . .Paul Martsching**
**Librarian. . . . . Mary Lohr**
**Publicity. . . . . .Luanne Endreland**
**Newsletter Editors . . . Buckley and Marilyn Peterson**

## INSIDE

**"DNA" Dr. Laurent Hodges. . . . . 2**
**Minutes from last meeting. . . . . .2**
**Genealogy Plus . . . . . 3**
**Land Records, Alice Hoyt Veen . . . . . 3**
**IGS Announcements . . . . . 4**
**New Books at the Library . . . . . 4**
**Workshop on Tombstone Restoration . . . .5**

Attended a class in Kalona and a couple of people in attendance were from facilities I had no idea had historical sections – such as John Deere and Davenport School System. At another meeting learned that Story County 4-H has a website and they have digitized records on that site. So there are many places out there where we can fill in more pieces of our genealogy puzzle. *Nancy*

## Deep Ancestry Genealogy from Personal DNA Analysis

Dr. Laurent Hodges, retired Physics professor, spoke at the March 14 Story County Genealogy Society meeting, on *Deep Ancestry Genealogy from a Personal DNA Analysis.* Dr. Hodges, his wife, and son are participants in the National Genographic Genome Project, a nonprofit scientific organization researching human migrations and origins. The DNA carries genetic information that is inherited from parents, and in turn, inherited by descendants. By having their DNA analyzed, the Hodges have received a visual percentage breakdown of their genomic ancestry by regional genetic affiliation.

Persons interested in having DNA analysis can go to the website of the National Genographic Genome Project to learn more about participation. With a simple and painless cheek swab ($200 per person for the test kit), the DNA will be analyzed for genetic markers. DNA analysis can also be used in helping to solve crimes, determining: 1) parents, 2) relatedness between individuals in a DNA database, 3) genes associated with certain diseases, and 4) the general mix of regional ancestries and migration paths. If anyone participates in DNA analysis and wants to compare results, Dr. Hodges would be interested in your contacting him.

*Marilyn Peterson*

## Minutes from March 4, 2016 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. in the Ames Public Library auditorium by President Nancy Long. There were 42 members and guests present.

Those attending introduced themselves by stating a special gift they had been given in connection with their genealogical searching.

Reports: The February minutes were approved with the correction that one of the budget committee's members is Mary Ausborn, not Mary Lohr. The treasurer's report was given by Mary Ausborn and filed for the auditing committee.
Mary Lohr, Librarian, reported the 2016 joint book order with the Ames Library has arrived and is available for viewing. The order totaled more than $500, including memorial contributions, and the emphasis is on local and Midwest regional books.

Bonnie Samuel told of the upcoming Genealogy Plus session on March 16: "Basics of Land Records Research: On Solid Ground" by Alice Hoyt Veen. Bonnie is working on programs for the coming year for both SCGS and Genealogy Plus.

Paul Martsching, Historian, reported that there are still four gaps in the SCGS Newsletter collection he hopes to locate so that there will be a complete collection. These issues are: February and April 1982, January 1983 and April 1973.

Marti Rasmussen reported the Ames Public Library has a copy of the book "We Thought We Heard the Angels Sing" by James C Whittaker, which was referenced by last month's speaker Suzanne Kelly.

Old Business: Registration is needed for the Workshop on Tombstone Cleaning and Restoration, May 14, 2016. See the announcement in last month's newsletter.

The workshop held at The Rose was well attended. Those in attendance were urged to start writing their stories so they won't be lost.

The meeting was adjourned.

*Katie Pattee,* Secretary

## Alice Hoyt Veen on Land Records

Alice Hoyt Veen, Certified Genealogist, presented at the Genealogy Plus session on March 16, information on the basics of land records research. Land records have a great deal of genealogical value and often include names of spouses, children, and other family members. They anchor a person in a time and place and may be some of the earliest records available. Through land records, it is possible to track the migration of ancestors and learn about their lives. Many immigrants came because land was affordable, and the westward movement thrived because of the promise of land grants or affordable land. Clues to land ownership may be found in family documents or traditions of keeping land in the family, census schedules, wills and probates, tax records, and plat maps.

Records of land sales can be found in state archives or libraries, local courthouses, or Land Offices. Some are now on Family History Library (FHL) microfilm since many have been abstracted and published. Federal land records are preserved by the Bureau of Land Management. In Iowa, tract books are kept in the assessor's offices and are useful in tracing the history of the land.

Alice's website and blog at *www.prairieroots.com* give information and resources on land and property research.

*Marilyn Peterson*

Murphy's Law of Genealogy: The spelling of your European ancestors' names bears no relationship to its correct spelling or pronunciation.

## Genealogy Plus Group

***...taking you to the next level in your family research!***

**Meeting 3rd Wednesday each month at the Ames Public Library**

**Schedule Apr-May 2016**

**April 20, 2016:** U. S. and State Census Records—Sharon Avery, Archivist, Iowa Historical Society.

**May 18, 2016:** Heritage Quest: Census, PERSI, Revolutionary War—Mary Lohr, Story County Genealogical Society.

Genealogy Plus is being sponsored by the Story County Genealogy Society and the Ames Public Library. Each class, 3rd Wednesday of each month, is free and open to the public. Classes are 10: 00 AM to noon.

Bring your computer if you like to each session. We will have time at each class for you to explore the skills learned in the session with helpers to assist you too.

Coordinators:
Mary Lohr
Bonnie Samuel

Contact us at storygenes@gmail.com

## BACK ISSUES OF THE NEWSLETTER

**Paul Martsching, SCGS Historian, has accounted for all of the past newsletters except February 1982, April 1982, January 1983, and April 1973. If you have or know someone who has those issues, and if the owner would donate them to SCGS, the set will be complete. Please help us find the missing issues.**

## IGS Announcements

## The 2016 IGS Spring Conference

**April 9, 2016**

**Dr. Bryant McAllister,** professor of biology at University of Iowa, will lead the day-long conference on DNA. We are still working on getting the sign up form available online.

## Reprinted from the February issue

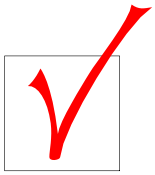
Three genealogy items have recently been added to the circulating collection at the Ames Public Library.

**Discovering Your Roots [DVD] : an Introduction to Genealogy** with John Philip Colletta (Chantilly, VA: Teaching Company, 2014) Call number 929.1 DVD DIS

**How to Use Evernote For Genealogy: a Step-by-Step Guide to Organize Your Research and Boost Your Genealogy Productivity** by Kerry Scott (Cincinnati: Family Tree Books, 2015) Call number 929.1 SCO 2015

**Unofficial Guide to FamilySearch.org: How to Find Your Family History on The World's Largest Free Genealogy Website** by Dana McCullough (Cincinnati: Family Tree Books, 2015) 929.1 MCC 2015

And, for a bonus, if you want an e-book, *Genealogy Online* (10 ed.) by Elizabeth Powell Crowe (McGraw-Hill Education, 2014) (available through the Bridges online system).



**I only research my family history on days beginning with "T". So that's Tuesday and Thursday...Today and Tomorrow...and Thaturday and Thunday. (Copied from Pinterest Friday Funnies)**

## New at the Ames Public Library

**Twenty-six new titles** have recently been added to the Ames Public Library genealogy reference collection. Based on a long-standing agreement with the Ames Public Library, the books were purchased with SCGS paying half the cost. Membership dues, donations, research fees, and memorial money fund most of the portion SCGS pays.

**Memorials:**

The Great Migration Direction: Immigrants to New England
New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer

**SCGS selections:**

Becoming an Excellent Genealogist
Digging Deeper
Discovering the History of Your House and Your Neighborhood
Elements of Genealogical Analysis
Finding Your African American Ancestors
Finding Your Italian Roots
Genealogical Research in Nebraska
Genealogy Research and Those Photographs
Genealogy Research: How to Organize the Notes, Papers, Documents, Emails, Scans...
German Settlers of Iowa: Their Descendants, and European Ancestors
Handy Iowa Genealogy Handbook
Handy Minnesota Genealogy Handbook
Handy South Dakota Genealogy Handbook
The Irish in America: Immigration, Land, Probate...
Research in Illinois
Set Yourself Up to Self-Publish
Steppes to New Odessa: Germans from Russia
Stories in Stone: a Field Guide to Cemetery Symbol Iconography
Tracing Your Baltic, Scandinavian, Eastern European, and Middle Eastern Ancestry Online ...

**At a Glance Series:**

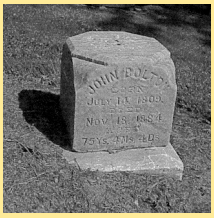
African American Research
Michigan Genealogy Research
Old Southwest Genealogy Research
Scots-Irish Genealogy Research
Ohio Genealogy Research

*Mary Lehr*

## WORKSHOP ON TOMBSTONE CLEANING AND RESTORATION

Dennis Allen and Cris Nagla from the Iowa Genealogical Society will present a workshop on tombstone cleaning and restoration Saturday, May 14, 2016. The first portion will be a presentation and explanation starting at 9 am at Adams Funeral Home, 502 Douglas Ave. Ames, Iowa.

Following the presentation, the hands-on portion will be an actual cleaning of tombstones at the Ames Municipal Cemetery. In case of inclement weather the cemetery portion will be canceled. Each person will receive a bucket of supplies which they can use and keep.



If there are spaces remaining in April, reservations will be open to non-SCGS members and the fee for all registrations after April 1 is $25. ***Registration is limited to twenty persons.***

*Payment is required with all registrations. Deadlines for cancellation is May 1, 2016. No refunds after that date. See the registration form below.*

# Monument Cleaning Workshop Registration

**presented by Dennis Allen and Cris Nagla**
**Saturday, May 14 9 am to noon**

**Presentation at Adams Funeral Home, 502 Douglas Ave., Ames**
**followed by hands-on tombstone cleaning at the Ames Municipal Cemetery**
**Supplies provided**
*****In case of inclement weather, the cemetery portion will not be held*****

**Registration limited to 20 persons**
***Cost is $25 person***

**Payment due with registration! No refunds after May 1.**

**Include this form and a check payable to SCGS Workshop. Mail to:**

**Story County Genealogical Society, PO Box 692, Ames, Iowa 50010**

**Cancellations: Call 515-231-6980**

**Name**_____

**Address**_____

Logo Design by
Karen Pattee David

## STORY COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

**Send Membership dues to PO Box 692, Ames, IA 50010**
**Or pay the Treasurer at a SCGS meeting.**
**Make checks payable to Story County Genealogical Society.**

**Membership is ____$10 per person OR____$15 per family each year**

**Dues paid after April 1 will be for balance of the calendar year**

**MEMBER OF IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY_____YES____NO**

**NAME:**_____

**ADDRESS:**_____

**CITY:**_____**STATE:**_____

**PHONE:**_____**E-MAIL:**_____

***SCGS NEWS***

**Story County Genealogical Society**

**PO Box 692**

**Ames IA 50010**

Logo Design by Karen Pattee David

# SCGS NEWS

**"Helping You Connect With Your Heritage"**

**Story County Genealogical Society**

**PO Box 692**
**Ames, Iowa**
**50010**

**www.storygenes.com**
**e-mail: storygenes@gmail.com**
**Facebook.com/storygenes**

**May 2016**

**Vol 49, Issue 5**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It sure is very reassuring that we have people in our County who take good care of our pioneer cemeteries. They have very interesting stories to tell also. Thank you Dave Stensland and Linda Meyers for your presentation at our SCGS meeting in March. I know all the township trustees take their jobs very seriously. I have already made a cemetery trip to Dayton, Ia. to find a GG Grandmother of my husband. Thanks to the internet and those who document the cemeteries for us, we were able to locate the grave really quickly. She was married to a gentleman who was killed at the Battle of Shiloh, leaving her with two small boys. It was interesting that one of her sons with her first husband was named William, her second husband was a William and she had another son whom she named William. It started getting very confusing. Had to depend on my dates to keep them straight.

The Genealogy Plus presentation by Sharon Avery was very interesting and how useful the Census can be to find out all kinds of information. Next month will be our last presentation for this year. I guess our Charter Members felt that we should take the summer off to do our research so we can report back to everyone in the fall. Maybe that is a good idea. See you on May 9.

Nancy Long

## NEXT PROGRAM (6:30 PM)

**May 9, 2016 –** Ken Mahler: "Signs of the Times: Towns In Iowa

**Sept 12, 2016—TBA**

**October 10, 2016—**Mary Lohr "Library Science; How to Find It"

## OFFICERS

**President . . . . . .Nancy Long**
**Vice President. . . . . Bonnie Samuel**
**Secretary . . . . . .Katie Pattee**
**Treasurer . . . . . Mary Ausborn**
**Historian.. . . . . .Paul Martsching**
**Librarian. . . . . Mary Lohr**
**Publicity. . . . . .Luanne Endreland**

## INSIDE

**Minutes from last meeting. . . . . .2**
**Census Records, Sharon Avery. . . . . 2**
**Genealogy Plus . . . . . 3**
**Milford Township, Stensland & Myers. . . . 3**
**Lynette Spicer, Education Committee. . . . 4**
**IGS Announcement, Fall Conference. . . . . 4**
**New Books at the Library . . . . . 4**
**Alice Hoyt Veen to BCG Trusteeship. . . . . 5**
**New Hours at the Family History Center. . 5**
**"DNA Unlocking the Code". . . . . 5**
**50th Anniversary Book, Judy McClain. . . . 5**
**Workshop on Tombstone Restoration . . . .6**

## U, S. AND STATE CENSUS RECORDS

Iowa State and Federal Census records portray a century of Iowa history, 1840 to 1940. Sharon Avery, Government Records Archivist in the State Historical Society, gave an excellent presentation on census records at Genealogy Plus on April 20, 2016. She provided handouts outlining the variety of information to be found. The first federal census was in 1790, and Iowa's first state census was 1856. Surviving Iowa census records are 1856, 1885, 1895, 1905, 1915, and 1925. Not all states take censuses, and Iowa is unique in having six very highly regarded census records.

The records are a great resource for genealogists and historians and contain a wealth of information about people and the economic and social conditions in the U.S. over the decades. The 1850 federal census was the first to list names of all members of a household (white and free black). Prior to that, only number of males and females in age groups were listed. Throughout census history, various questions were asked regarding employment and occupations, military service, education, race, real estate value, date and place of birth, marriage status, parentage, birthplace of parents, home ownership, immigration, naturalization, and in some cases personal information.

The 1890 federal census was destroyed by fire, and only supplemental schedules for Union veterans and their widows survived for a limited number of states (Kentucky through Wyoming). Iowa's did not survive. Sometimes a census shows unique features: 1930 federal--if a radio set is in the home; 1940--where the person resided on April 1, 1935, language spoken at home during childhood, number of marriages for women, age at first marriage, and number of children. The 1925 Iowa census is considered the best census ever taken!

Cont'd Pg 4 **Census**

## Minutes from April 11, 2016 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. in the Ames Public Library auditorium by President Nancy Long. There were twenty members and guests present. Those attending introduced themselves by sharing the most common first or last name in their genealogical ancestors.

**Reports:** The March minutes were approved as printed in the April newsletter. The treasurer's report was given by Nancy Long on behalf of Mary Ausborn.

Mary Lohr, Librarian, reported the SCGS committee of Nancy Long, Mary Lohr, Bonnie Samuels and Katie Pattee have completed an inventory of the Genealogical section of the Ames Public Library. No-longer-pertinent journals and books were available for our taking, as they will be discarded by the Library.

Mary Lohr reported that the upcoming Genealogy Plus meeting on April 20, 2016 will be "U.S. and State Census Records" given by Sharon Avery, Archivist, Iowa Historical Society. Mary's position in guiding this group will now be assumed by Lynette Spicer. A brief biography on Lynette read by Nancy Long gave us insight into a promising future.

Old Business: Registration is still open for the Workshop on Tombstone Cleaning and Restoration, May 14, 2016. See the announcement in last month's newsletter.

The workshop held at the Huxley Public Library went well, and two volunteers are needed on an Iowa Genealogical Society (IGS) workshop there on May 12, 6 to 8 p.m.

Dave Stensland and Linda Miller presented a program on Milford Township.

The meeting was adjourned.

*Katie Pattee,* Secretary

## Milford Township, Story County, IA

Dave Stensland and Linda Myers jointly presented a program at the Story County Genealogy Society meeting on April 11, 2016, on their research in Milford Township in northeast Ames. The township is bounded by Dayton Road on the west, S-14 on the east, 13th Street on the south, and 150th Street on the north. Dave's work was done when telephone and pencil were used; Linda's more recently by computer and Roots Magic software. Roots Magic provides an avenue of research and documentation both forward and backward. In addition, they extensively used library records, obituaries, and other records. She especially encourages researchers to use the Iowa GenWeb site.

Linda's genealogical efforts go back to her teenage years when her mother admonished her to not throw anything away. She would say, "Don't throw it away. Give it to me. I will keep it for you!" Thus, their house was always filled with pictures, family Bibles, and anything else she could lay her hands on. In addition, there was a significant source of information from family members, especially cousins, who were very close and got together often.

Both Dave and Linda worked extensively on compiling records for the Knoll Cemetery and identifying persons buried there. No records existed, and most burials were persons who had no family to claim them, including many residents of the county home. Dave and Linda also took an active interest in the Pleasant Grove Cemetery and Church. Nine generations of Linda's family are represented there, and about 37 of the 150 graves are her relatives. Dave and Linda are putting markers on unmarked graves and have registered them on Find-A-Grave and Billion Graves. She intends to insure that every grave has a marker--"When I get to take care of the cemetery, I am taking care of their homes." Dave gets credit for verifying the numerous burials there utilizing his talent as a grave witcher.

In addition to cemeteries, Milford Township had nine schools. The much-loved Milford School was built in 1923 and closed in 1961 when the state mandated that schools with less than 50 high school students were to be consolidated. Fortunately, the Milford School building was purchased privately and has been refurbished and made into living quarters. An open house and school reunion will be held the last Sunday in June 2017. Announcements will be made in area newspapers to remind former students and friends they can visit their beloved Milford School again.

## Genealogy Plus Group

***...taking you to the next level in your family research!***

**Meeting 3rd Wednesday each month at the Ames Public Library,**

**Schedule: May-November 2016**

**May 18, 2016:** Heritage Quest: Census, PERSI, Revolutionary War—Mary Lohr, Story County Genealogical Society.

**Sept 21, 2016:** Beginning Genealogy—Dennis Allen, Iowa Genealogical Society.

**October 19, 2016:** Genealogical Proof Standard—Alice Hoyt Veen, Iowa Genealogical Society.

**November 16, 2016:** Great Depression Years—Lisa Ossian, Humanities Iowa.

Genealogy Plus is being sponsored by the Story County Genealogy Society and the Ames Public Library. Each class, 3rd Wednesday of each month, is free and open to the public. Classes are 10: 00 AM to noon.

Bring your computer if you like to each session. We will have time at each class for you to explore the skills learned in the session with helpers to assist you too.

Coordinators:
Lynette Spicer
Bonnie Samuel
Luanne Endreland
Contact us at storygenes@gmail.com

## IGS Announcements

**The IGS 2016 Fall Conference will be Oct. 7th and 8th at Toad Valley Country Club in Pleasant Hill, Iowa. We are excited to have Dr. Josh Taylor, the former Director of Education and Programs at the New England Historic Genealogical Society, as our speaker.**

## Lynette Spicer, new to SCGS Education Committee

Lynette Spicer joins Bonnie Samuel and Luanne Endreland on SCGS Education Committee as Mary Lohr steps down.

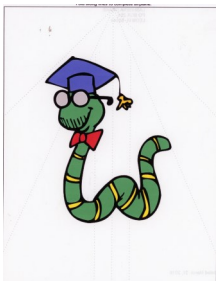
Lynette started researching her genealogy back in the days of typewriters. She stashed it all away when she had the first of three children and worked full time. When the kids left, she got the genealogy binders out, added her husband's lines and entered the digital age. Her own lines go back to the 1630s in New England on her dad's side and to German immigrants in the 1850s on her mother's side. Her husband's lines go back to colonial Virginia and Kentucky.

Lynette retired from Iowa State University in 2010. She worked part-time for the following four years for national eXtension (e-extension) as news editor. Through the years she sold newspaper advertising, wrote, edited and did marketing work. She also worked for the U.S. Census Bureau gathering information monthly for the current Population Survey which is the primary source of labor force statistics.

Currently Lynette serves on the Ames Historical Society board as secretary and on the Ames United Church of Christ board as secretary. She is a member of Story County Master Gardeners and Story County Genealogical Society.

SCGS thanks Mary Lohr for a superb job in helping start Genealogy Plus, now being maintained by the Education Committee..

## Recent additions to the genealogy collection at the Ames Public Library:



German genealogy research R GENEALOG 943 THO 2011

An introduction to Ostfriesen genealogy: including articles from the American-Ostfriesen Zeitung
R GENEALOG 929.1 INT 2007

Your Swedish roots: a step by step handbook 929 CLE 2004

North Germany to North America: 19th century migration 304.8 STO 2003

Mexican-American genealogical research: following the paper trail to Mexico 929 SCH 2002

Tracing your Irish ancestors : the complete guide 929.1 GRE 2012

Tracing your ancestors through death records: a guide for family historians 929.1 HER 2015

*Mary Lohr*

Cont'd from Pg 2 **Census**

Ms. Avery pointed out that future censuses will not have the wealth of information of those in previous decades.

Additionally, federal mortality schedules and agricultural schedules and some special Iowa agricultural and county census records survive. Most state censuses are in Midwest states. Census records can be found in state archives, historical societies, and on Heritage Quest. Family Search and Ancestry are continuing to scan records to make them available to the public. Iowa keeps its records closed for 75 years. For the federal census, records are released after 72 years. With advancing technology, more records are being scanned and preserved each year.

**The IGS Lock-In will be May 21st @ 4 p.m.** $15, bring a snack to share and we will order pizza.

## "DNA UNLOCKING THE CODE"

Bonnie Norman

Dr. Bryant F. McAllister, University of Iowa Associate Biology Professor, presented "DNA Unlocking the Code" for the Iowa Genealogical Society 2016 Spring Conference held on April 9, 2016, at the IGS Library in Des Moines. AncestryDNA, Family Tree DNA, and 23andMe, the three major testing companies, were described at length. How to use test results from each company was explained, including making matches with our family members using SNP analysis (Single Nucleotide Polymorphism) and discovering our genetic similarity with reference populations sampled throughout the world. One of the conference attendees was adopted and previously had no parental information. DNA testing has now allowed her to find some of her cousins. With more and more persons adding their DNA to the databases every year, this will provide a very useful tool for answering our genealogical questions!

There's a fine line between being a packrat and a serious family historian.

**New Hours at the Ames Family History Center, 2514 Hoover Ave, Ames**

**Tuesdays:** Noon-3:00 PM by appointment; 6:00-8:30 PM

**Thursdays:** 9:00 AM-Noon; 6:00-8:30 PM

**Saturdays:** Mornings by appointment

## IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY 50TH ANNIVERSARY BOOK

**Judy McClain, IGS Librarian, has compiled a wonderful history of the first 50 years of IGS. View this very special tribute to our first 50 years or by sections for small downloads by accessing the website, iowagenealogy.org.**
**(copied from IGS Newsletter)**

## BCG Welcomes Alice Hoyt Veen, CG as New BCG Education Fund Trustee

Dick Eastman · April 21, 2016 · People, Societies

The BCG Education Fund Board of Trustees welcomes new trustee Alice Hoyt Veen, CG, of Bouton, Iowa. Alice is a sixth-generation Iowan and life-long genealogist who became Board-certified in 2014. She specializes in Midwestern and territorial records with an emphasis on military history and Midwestern connections to American colonial roots.

Alice's special interest in genealogical education makes her a natural fit for a BCG Education Fund trustee. She has taught classes on Iowa and territorial records, traditional records, and research methodology. She serves on the education committee of the Iowa Genealogical Society and writes a column for the society's newsletter. Alice believes genealogists at every level benefit from excellence in education and looks forward to working toward that goal. **Copied from IGS Newsletter 26 April 2016**

# Monument Cleaning Workshop Registration

**presented by Dennis Allen and Cris Nagla**

**Saturday, May 14 9 am to noon**

**Presentation at Adams Funeral Home, 502 Douglas Ave., Ames**

**followed by hands-on tombstone cleaning at the Ames Municipal Cemetery**

**Supplies provided**

*****In case of inclement weather, the cemetery portion will not be held*****

**Registration limited to 20 persons**

***Cost is $25 person***

**Payment due with registration! No refunds after May 1.**

**Include this form and a check payable to SCGS Workshop. Mail to:**

**Story County Genealogical Society, PO Box 692, Ames, Iowa 50010**

**Cancellations: Call 515-231-6980**

**Name**_____

**Address**_____

Logo Design by
Karen Pattee David

## STORY COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

**Send Membership dues to PO Box 692, Ames, IA 50010**
**Or pay the Treasurer at a SCGS meeting.**
**Make checks payable to Story County Genealogical Society.**

**Membership is ____$10 per person OR____$15 per family each year**

**Dues paid after April 1 will be for balance of the calendar year**

**MEMBER OF IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY_____YES____NO**

**NEW MEMBER_____RENEWAL_____**

**NAME:**_____

**ADDRESS:**_____

**CITY:**_____**STATE:**_____

**PHONE:**_____**E-MAIL:**_____

Logo Design by Karen Pattee David

# SCGS NEWS

"Helping You Connect With Your Heritage"

Story County Genealogical Society

PO Box 692
Ames, Iowa
50010

www.storygenes.com
e-mail: storygenes@gmail.com
Facebook.com/storygenes

September 2016

Vol 49, Issue 6

## President's Message

The calendar shows that school has started, and we will be meeting again. Hope everyone had a good summer, and I am looking forward to hearing about your summer activities. My kids ask every time we go by a cemetery now if I want to stop. There was a very interesting one in Galveston, Texas. I was at an event last week, and while I was sitting at a table, I asked the gentleman sitting next to me where he was from. He told me, and I told him I had recently found a whole branch of my family buried there and want to visit in the near future. He had lots of relatives buried there also. We talked for a while about this subject and looked around, noting everyone else had left the table. I guess they weren't as interested.

I know that Bonnie and Lynette have been busy obtaining some very good speakers for the upcoming year, and I really look forward to hearing each and every one. The topics sound challenging and interesting.

Lynette and Bonnie did an excellent job doing an interview for *At Your Library with Mary Logsdon*. You can find the link on our website – Storygenes.com. Thank you.

See everyone on September 12, 2016. *Nancy*

## NEXT PROGRAM

**September 12, 2016 meeting of Story County Genealogical Society, 6:30 PM**
**Ames Public Library**
**"Iowa Cultural Kaleidoscope"**
**Phillip Webber, Central College**

**Phillip Webber, Professor Emeritus of German and Linguistics at Central College, Pella, Iowa, comes to us from Humanities Iowa and will speak on the many diverse ethnic groups who settled in Iowa, bringing different cultures and languages, enriching our communities, and leaving records that tell their stories. Our ancestors settled here, raised their families, and contributed to the growth of our state.** *Humanities Iowa is a private, non-profit state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities*.

**October 10, 2016**
**Using the Library Catalog**
**Mary Lohr, SCGS Librarian and Genealogist**

**Check in often at the SCGS** website for anouncements, meeting schedules, and classes.

## INSIDE

Ken Mahler—Iowa Towns. . . . . .2
Minutes from last meeting. . . . . 2
IGS Announcements. . . . . 3
Library Notes. . . . . 4
Genealogy Plus . . . . . .4
Volunteers. . . . . .5
Jennie Wade Story. . . . . 6

**MINUTES from last meeting, May 11, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. in the Ames Public Library auditorium by President Nancy Long. There were twenty-five members and guests present.

Those attending introduced themselves by responding to a questionnaire by Bonnie Samuels about what would be helpful in our writing a family history. She will use our answers as guidelines for an upcoming program next year.

Reports: The April minutes were approved as printed in the May newsletter. The treasurer's report was given by Nancy Long on behalf of Mary Ausborn. Nancy said that our expenses are buying books for the library, Post Office box rental, honorariums for speakers, newsletter costs, etc.

Mary Lohr, Librarian, reported more books have been added to the Ames Public Library as listed in our newsletter. We should forward any book suggestions to the Library, and a recent addition has been *Google Guides to Genealogy* – which can be checked out. Mary Lohr will be giving the upcoming Genealogy Plus meeting on May 18, 2016: Heritage Quest: Census, PERSI, Revolutionary War.

Old Business: Registration is still open for the Workshop on Tombstone Cleaning and Restoration, May 14, 2016. See the announcement in last month's newsletter. The cost is now reduced to $10.00

Ken Mahler presented a program on Signs of the Times = Towns in Iowa.

The meeting was adjourned.

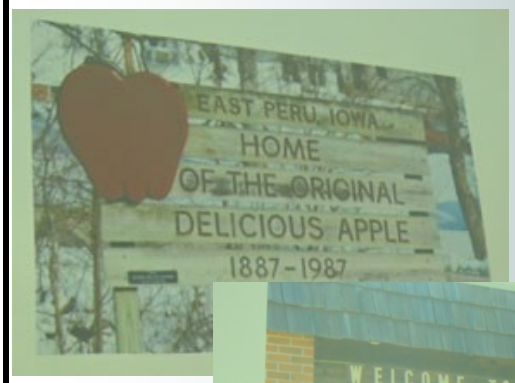
*Katie Pattee*, Secretary

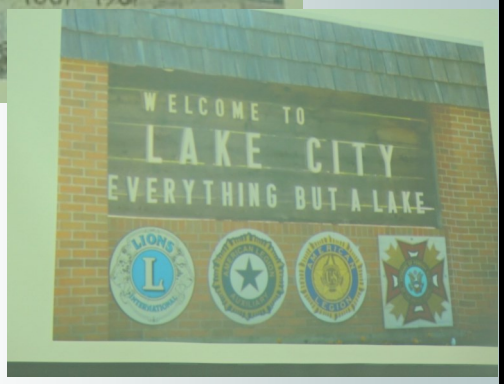
## Signs of the Times: Towns in Iowa

**May 8, 2016**

"It was a trip of a lifetime," Ken Mahler told the Story County Genealogy Society about traveling the state of Iowa, noticing small-town *welcome* signs, and learning what those signs told about the areas.

When asked how many miles he drove, his response—"I have no idea, but if I did know, I'm sure it would be an impressive number." He was never without his camera, and he took his first photo on June 5, 2007, in the town of Fernald. And, for the next seven years he recorded signs introducing the various towns, taking his last picture on May 27, 2014. Then he turned it all into a book entitled *Journey through Iowa's Cities; Big and Small* .




Ken was especially interested in what the *Welcome* signs said about the area like the town of **East Peru**, Home of the original Delicious apple. And, **Lake City**—"where's the lake," he was asked, to which he replied, "There isn't one."

Some other interesting and unique signs were:

**Gravity**--We're down to earth. If gravity goes, we all go.

**Mahler** Cont'd on pg 3

**Mahler** **Cont'd from pg 2**

**Hardy**--100 years and still hardy.
**Macksburg**--home of the National Skillet Throw.
**Washta**--Coldest temperature recorded, minus 47 degrees, in 1912
**Burr Oak** welcomes you--Laura Ingalls Wilder Park and Museum

## IGS Announcements

**The IGS Capital Campaign has begun.** In an effort to pay off our mortgage, we are reaching out to our members, volunteers and the greater community to raise the necessary funds. If you are a member, you will have received a brochure along with your ballot. Please consider making a donation to ensure the continued vital work of IGS.

## Fall Conference (SOLD OUT)

**The conference will be Oct. 7th and 8th at Toad Valley Country Club in Pleasant Hill, Iowa. We are working with our venue to add more space. If you would like to be added to the waiting list, call 515-276-0287.**

We are excited to have D. Josh Taylor as our speaker. For more than 20 years Joshua has been discovering – and sharing – the incredible connections that can be made through genealogy and family history. As host of the popular series Genealogy Roadshow (PBS) he crisscrosses the United States – solving longstanding family history mysteries and uncovering genealogical treasures at every turn. Since February 2016, Joshua has been the President of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society (NYG&B), America's second oldest genealogical organization, headquartered in New York City.

### IGS Open House

The **IGS Open House** will be Saturday, September 17 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you are a part of a heritage, lineage or historical group and would like to exhibit, please contact Jennifer @ execdir@iowagenealogy.org

### IGS Quilt Raffle

**IGS 2016 Raffle Quilt** is available: Celtic With A Twist 100% Cotton 60x60 Couch Quilt. The drawing will be held at the 2016 Fall Conference. A photo is available on our website, www.iowagenealogy.org. Tickets are $2 or 6 for $10. Contact igs@iowagenealogy.org for more information.

**I'm going to name you after your father and grandfather so genealogists will have a heck of a time trying to research you in the next century.**

## Genealogy Plus Group

***...taking you to the next level in your family research!***

**Meeting 3rd Wednesday each month at the Ames Public Library**

Genealogy Plus is being sponsored by the Story County Genealogy Society and the Ames Public Library, 3rd Wednesday of each month, September— May. Classes are 10 AM to noon in the Ames Public Library auditorium—free and open to the public.

Bring your computer if you like to each session. We will have time at each class for you to explore the skills learned in the session with helpers to assist you too.

Coordinators:
Mary Lohr
Bonnie Samuel
Contact us at storygenes@gmail.com

## GENEALOGY PLUS

**Genealogy Plus** begins its genealogy educational series for 2016-2017 on Wednesday, September 21. Family genealogist, Dennis Allen, returns, presenting "Beginning Genealogy." This class is not just for beginners! Dennis will talk about the basics, what new resources are available, new databases, organizing your findings, and more.

**Beginning Genealogy, Speaker—Dennis Allen**

*Beginning or experienced, there is always something new to learn! Learn new techniques and resources that will enhance your research.*

## Library Notes

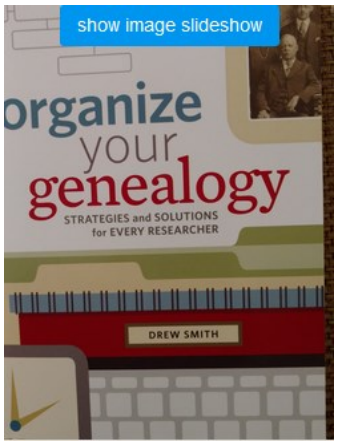
by Mary Lohr, SCGS Librarian

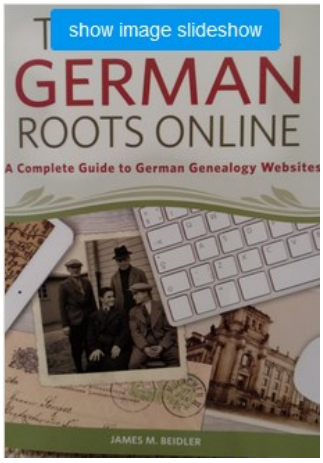
If you have German ancestry or are struggling with organizing your genealogy life, two recent book additions at the Ames Public Library are sure to be of interest. Both of these titles are in the circulating collection which means they may be checked out.

Organize Your Genealogy: Strategies for Every Researcher by Drew Smith. (Cincinnati, Ohio: Family Tree Books, 2016) The author takes the reader through organizing your space, goals, notes and ideas, files, research process, communication, online research, learning, and volunteering. Call number: 929.1 SMI 2016

Trace Your German Roots Online: A Complete Guide to German Genealogy Websites by James M. Beidler. (Cincinnati, Ohio : Family Tree Books, 2016) In addition to a plethora of relevant websites, the author details German research, describes finding your ancestors' place of origin, contacting archives, overcoming the language barrier, and using social media. Call number 929.1 BEI 2016

(These books are also available for sale on Amazon.com)



## YOU ARE NEEDED

**VOLUNTEERS:** Those who share their knowledge, time, support, and expertise.

Volunteers enhance the offerings of an organization such as SCGS and likewise increase their own knowledge base.

**The easy fact is that the more people who volunteer to help, the more we can offer, which benefits everyone. The amount of time you can commit may be small, but every minute is important and makes a difference.**

**Please review** the following list of volunteer needs—some large projects and some small tasks. All are equally important. If you have experience or expertise in any of the items listed, please talk to Nancy Long, Bonnie Samuel, or Lynette Spicer, or mark an item on the list, sign with your contact info, and hand in; we will be in touch!

**Here are some specific tasks**—please let us know how you can help.

- **O** Serve on the SCGS board or committee: currently looking for candidates for officers, but also need
  - **O** Public Relations – someone to do press releases – will train
  - **O** Education Committee – speakers and program development
  - **O** Co-editor for the SCGS webpage
- **O** In your own genealogical research, do you have a working knowledge of the US censuses, military records, period photo recognition, vital records, land records for a certain area, immigration, etc? *Would you be willing to help others during the Genealogy Plus work sessions?*
- **O** Contribute an article for the webpage or the monthly newsletter?
- **O SCGS** receives periodic requests for research in Story county – will you commit some time to processing those requests?
- **O** We begin each monthly SCGS meeting with "Share and Learn" – do you have an idea or a topic? Let us know!
- **O** SCGS provides periodic help sessions at libraries around the Ames area including Ames Public Library—we need assistants.

**O Other ideas, suggestions?**

**Sign up here….and thanks!**

Name: _____Date: _____

Address:_____City:_____Zip: _____

Email:_____Phone:_____

Comment:_____

_____

## JENNIE WADE HOUSE AND MUSEUM, GETTYSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

Many SCGS members may recall the late Gretchen Triplett telling about a relative who was the only civilian casualty of the Battle of Gettysburg. The young lady, Mary Virginia Wade (known as "Jennie"), was a sister of Gretchen's great grandmother on her paternal line. On a recent trip to Gettysburg, we visited the Jennie Wade House and Museum and learned that Jennie's sister, Georgia McClellan and family moved to Denison, Iowa, a few years after the Gettysburg Battle. We visited with our guide and told her of the Ames connection with Jennie. She invited us to see a photo of a 2013 family reunion in Denison showing the members gathered around the McClellan gravesites and asked if we could find Gretchen in the photo. We found and identified Gretchen for the ladies in the museum. They were thrilled and expressed interest in being put in touch with Gretchen's daughter. On our return, we made that connection and also visited the McClellan gravesites in Oakland Cemetery in Denison where the photo was taken. What a neat experience! The reunion was held the summer before Gretchen's untimely death in January 2014. Georgia McClellan was involved in Civil War activities, as Gretchen was, and was active in Women's Relief Corps and other philanthropic agencies at the local, state, and national levels. More information on Jennie and Georgia can be found on Find-a-Grave.com (Jennie #1064; Georgia #60505475).

*Marilyn Peterson*

**Jennie Wade Grave (flag), Evergreen Cemetery, Gettysburg, PA**

**McClellan graves, Oakland Cemetery, Denison, IA**

## SCGS OFFICERS

| | |
|---|---|
| **President** | **Nancy Long** |
| **Vice President** | **Bonnie Samuel** |
| **Treasurer** | **Mary Ausborn** |
| **Secretary** | **Katie Pattee** |
| **Historian** | **Paul Martsching** |
| **Publicity** | **Luanne Endreland** |
| **Librarian** | **Mary Lohr** |
| **Newsletter Editors** | **Buckley and Marilyn Peterson** |

## STORY COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

**Send Membership dues to PO Box 692, Ames, IA 50010**
**Or pay the Treasurer at a SCGS meeting.**
**Make checks payable to Story County Genealogical Society.**

**Membership is ____$10 per person OR____$15 per family each year**

**Dues paid after April 1 will be for balance of the calendar year**

**MEMBER OF IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY_____YES____NO**

**NAME:**_____

**ADDRESS:**_____

**CITY:**_____**STATE:**_____

**PHONE:**_____**E-MAIL:**_____

*SCGS NEWS*

**Story County Genealogical Society**

**PO Box 692**

**Ames IA 50010**

Logo Design by Karen Pattee David

# SCGS NEWS

"Helping You Connect With Your Heritage"

Story County Genealogical Society

PO Box 692
Ames, Iowa
50010

www.storygenes.com
e-mail: storygenes@gmail.com
Facebook.com/storygenes

October 2016

Vol 49, Issue 7

## President's Message

**WOW** is the first word that comes to mind after hearing our speakers for Story County Genealogical Society and Genealogy Plus. What an excellent way to start off the New Year. Phillip Webber gave us an excellent background in the groups of immigrants who settled in Iowa and where to locate more information on them. Dennis Allen is always interesting and I learn something new from his presentations. Now just need to find some time to put some of this new knowledge into practice before next month when we will learn that much more about genealogy. Hope you can attend one or both of the genealogy meetings. Thank you Bonnie and Lynette for all the work you have done and are putting into these programs. Looking forward to the rest of the year.

The volunteer sheet will be in the newsletter again this month. Please take a few minutes to fill it out so that we know your interests or strengths to make our Society even stronger. I believe we have a group that others are looking up to and wanting to follow our lead. Keep up the good work everyone…

*Nancy*

## NEXT PROGRAM

**October 10, 2016 meeting of Story County Genealogical Society, 6:30 PM, Ames Public Library**

**"Using the Library Catalog"**
**Mary Lohr SCGS Librarian and Genealogist**
**Learn the secrets of effective and successful searches in the library catalog.**

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**November 14, 2016, Annual Meeting—Election of Officers and Treats!**

**December 2016, no SCGS Meeting; Genealogy Plus will host a help session.**

**Genealogy Plus Work Sessions:**
**Basic Steps to Beginning Genealogy**
**October 6,10 am-noon at the Ames Library**

**Roots Magic—Getting Started**
**Nov 15, 10 am-noon at the Ames Library**
**(see p. 6 for more information)**

## INSIDE

Phillip Webber—Iowa Kaleidoscope. . . . . 2
Minutes from last meeting. . . . . .2
IGS Announcements. . . . . 3
Dennis Allen/Genealogy Plus. . . . . .4
Volunteers . . . . . 5
Genealogy Plus Workshops. . . . . 6

## MINUTES from last meeting, Sept 12, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. in the Ames Public Library auditorium by President Nancy Long. There were twenty-six members and guests present.

Those attending introduced themselves by responding to a questionnaire by Bonnie Samuels: "What skills have you learned either through your work/profession or through life experiences?" She hopes our answers will guide us toward volunteering for the Story County Genealogical Society and/or Genealogy Plus.

Reports: The May 2016 minutes were approved as printed in the September newsletter. The treasurer's report was given by Mary Lohr on behalf of Mary Ausborn.

There was no library report.

Dennis Allen will be giving the upcoming Genealogy Plus meeting on September 21, 2016: Beginning Genealogy.

Paul Martsching, Historian, requested suggestions for attaching loose newspaper clippings to pages he has found in the historian books. Rubber cement, possibly archival, was suggested.

Old Business: None.

New Business: President Nancy asked for volunteers for the nominating committee. Merlene Whisenand was suggested as she has done a great job on this committee in the past, and Gwenna Jacobson volunteered to serve.
Phillip E. Webber, Professor Emeritus of German and Linguistics at Central College, Pella, Iowa presented a program on Iowa's Cultural Kaleidoscope.

The meeting was adjourned.

*Katie Pattee*

## Iowa Cultural Kaleidoscope, Sept 12, 2016

At the Story County Genealogical Society (SCGS) meeting on September 12, Phillip Webber, Professor Emeritus of German and Linguistics at Central College in Pella, and Humanities Iowa speaker, spoke about the diverse ethnic groups that settled in Iowa--information developed during his years of teaching. He illustrated why these immigrants came, where they settled, the impact they made, and where their stories and records are located. These immigrants, our ancestors, brought different cultures and languages, contributing greatly to the growth of our state. Like today, there were mixed feelings about their settlement, but the legacy they left is still evident. He covered helpful steps in researching and summarized with listings of resources to be found in libraries, museums, through heritage organizations, on the internet, or at numerous ethnic facilities in the state.

Professor Webber is the author of two books: *Pella Dutch: The Portrait of a Language in an Iowa Community*, and *Kolonie-Deutsch: Life and Language in Amana*, both published in second editions by the University of Iowa Press. He illustrated the information with a PowerPoint presentation that can be found on the SCGS website, *www.storygenes.com*. On a handout, also on the website, he provided numerous links to internet sites and places that can be contacted. His inspiring and educational presentation will serve as a helpful guide to research into early settlement in Iowa by the various ethnic groups who became our ancestors.

## Iowa Genealogical Society (IGS) Announcements

**The Midwest Country School Preservation Conference will be Oct. 14-15 in Eldredge, IA.** For more information contact Bill Sherman, wsherman41@gmail.com

**The IGS Capital Campaign has begun.** In an effort to pay off our mortgage, we are reaching out to our members, volunteers and the greater community to raise the necessary funds. If you are a member, you will have received a brochure along with your ballot. Please consider making a donation to ensure the continued vital work of IGS.

## SCGS OFFICERS

| | |
|---|---|
| **President** | **Nancy Long** |
| **Vice President** | **Bonnie Samuel** |
| **Treasurer** | **Mary Ausborn** |
| **Secretary** | **Katie Pattee** |
| **Historian** | **Paul Martsching** |
| **Publicity** | |
| **Librarian** | **Mary Lohr** |
| **Newsletter Editors** | **Buckley and Marilyn Peterson** |

## Fall Conference (SOLD OUT)

**The conference will be Oct. 7th and 8th at Toad Valley Country Club in Pleasant Hill, Iowa. Available space is limited and will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Call 515-276-0287.**

We are excited to have D. Josh Taylor as our speaker. For more than 20 years Joshua has been discovering – and sharing – the incredible connections that can be made through genealogy and family history. As host of the popular series Genealogy Roadshow (PBS) he crisscrosses the United States – solving longstanding family history mysteries and uncovering genealogical treasures at every turn. Since February 2016, Joshua has been the President of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society (NYG&B), America's second oldest genealogical organization, headquartered in New York City.

+ + + + +

**IGS 2016 Raffle Quilt** is available: Celtic With A Twist 100% Cotton 60x60 Couch Quilt. The drawing will be held at the 2016 Fall Conference. A photo is available on our website, www.iowagenealogy.org. Tickets are $2 or 6 for $10. Contact igs@iowagenealogy.org for more information.

+ + + + +

**Confused about DNA?** IGS is starting a DNA Interest Group. The first meeting will be Tuesday, Oct. 4th at 6:30 p.m. Please call IGS @ 515-276-0287 to register so that we can make appropriate arrangements for space.

+ + + + +

**Life is busy and sometimes is hard to get to IGS to do research.** Starting in October, for Members Only, IGS will be open one Sunday a month. The first Sunday will be October 16th from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Not a member? You can join at the door.

## Genealogy Plus Group

***...taking you to the next level in your family research!***

**Meeting 3rd Wednesday each month at the Ames Public Library**

Genealogy Plus is being sponsored by the Story County Genealogy Society and the Ames Public Library, 3rd Wednesday of each month, September— May. Classes are 10 AM to noon in the Ames Public Library auditorium—free and open to the public.

Bring your computer if you like to each session. We will have time at each class for you to explore the skills learned in the session with helpers to assist you too.

Coordinators:
Lynette Spicer
Bonnie Samuel

Contact us at storygenes@gmail.com

+ + + + +

## Dennis Allen at Genealogy Plus

Dennis Allen, well-noted presenter from the Iowa Genealogical Society (IGS), spoke on Beginning Genealogy to a large number of eager newcomers and experienced researchers at the Genealogy Plus session on September 21 at the Ames Public Library. Even persons who have been doing genealogy research learned something new and were inspired by his basic overview and tips. Some of his suggestions are: annotate the difference between maiden and married names for women; do not abbreviate the state name; write dates military style (ex: 2 Dec 1934);

Cont'd next column

*Cont'd from previous column*

if 2 marriages, use 2 family group sheets; include all children, including deceased and adopted; write surnames in capital letters, write names of places from smallest to largest; check Heritage Quest for county and state line changes (HQ can be accessed with your library card through Ames Public Library); google "genealogy forms" and many can be found for printing. FamilySearch.org is putting Iowa county records online and has the 1940 census for free. The census can also be accessed at *www.1940Census.Archives.gov*.
.

Dennis emphasized the importance of documenting sources and starting with what you know, introduced basic pedigree and family group sheets to organize data, and explained primary and secondary sources. How-to books are helpful, many of which can be found at Ames Public Library. Numerous software programs can be used to organize data. Internet sites offer federal and state censuses, vital records, burial sites and obituaries, groups to connect you with other researchers, genealogy forms to display data, and newspaper articles about the migrations of early settlers. A research plan is essential to keep focused on what you are looking for and to evaluate what you have. He emphasized being particularly wary of copying others' research since information may not be documented or accurate. Records from others should be used only as a guide, but may provide a lead to additional research avenues. Family history research may be limited only by one's time to access records and keep up with new technologies in the exciting and expanding genealogy world.

A clean house is a sign
of a wasted day of genealogy.

# YOU ARE NEEDED

**VOLUNTEERS:** Those who share their knowledge, time, support, and expertise.

Volunteers enhance the offerings of an organization such as SCGS and likewise increase their own knowledge base.

**The easy fact is that the more people who volunteer to help, the more we can offer, which benefits everyone. The amount of time you can commit may be small, but every minute is important and makes a difference.**

**Please review the following list of volunteer needs—**some large projects and some small tasks. All are equally important. If you have experience or expertise in any of the items listed, please talk to Nancy Long, Bonnie Samuel, or Lynette Spicer, or mark an item on the list, sign with your contact info, and hand in; we will be in touch**!**

**Here are some specific tasks—**please let us know how you can help

*Serve on the SCGS board or committee: currently looking for candidates for officers, but also need

Public Relations—someone to do press releases—will train
Education Committee—speakers and program development
Co-editor for the SCGS webpage

*In your own genealogical research, do you have a working knowledge of the US censuses, military records, period photo recognition, vital records, and records for a certain area, immigration, etc Would you be willing to help others during the Genealogy Plus work sessions?

*Contribute an article for the webpage or the monthly newsletter?

*SCGS receives periodic requests for research in Story County—will you commit some time to processing those requests?

*We begin each monthly SCGS meeting with "Share and Learn"—do you have an idea or a topic? Let us know!

*SCGS provides periodic help sessions at libraries around the Ames area including Ames Public Library—we need assistants.

*Other ideas, suggestions?

Sign up here….and thanks!

Name:_____Date:_____

Address:_____City:_____*Zip:*_____

*Email:*_____*Phone:*_____

*Comment:*_____

# Genealogy Plus!

**Genealogy Plus! Work Sessions Scheduled**

Our last GP session with Dennis Allen was a great help and generated requests for a class on RootsMagic and one on Family Work Sheets and basics for some just starting. You got it!

**"Basic Steps Class" on Thursday, October 6th**

Rotary Room at the Library, 10 am to noon.

Start with filling out a Family Group Sheet with *what you know about your parents, grandparents and maybe great grandparents*. What information goes on this form, in what format (as in dates). Writing down details you know on family units helps you move to the next step: researching the blank spaces and verifying information.

Once you complete a Family Group Sheet with what you do know, we'll move on to finding your family in the census or vital records. Please bring any documents or records you have on ancestors to help in compiling your Family Group Sheet. If you have your own laptop, we suggest you bring it too. We will have access to the library computers as well.

**Please RSVP for this class, email Bonnie at bonnie.samuel@icloud.com**

**"RootsMagic - Getting Started" on Tuesday, November 15th**

10 am - noon, Ames Public Library Auditorium

Dennis Allen will lead you through the basics of this excellent genealogy software including the data entry process to inserting pictures and documents. With this class you will leave with skills to continue your family tree and explore the many features of the program.

We are working on setting up a RootsMagic User Group at the library with monthly meetings to learn more and find out about new features too....more on that coming soon.

While we will have the library's computers for this session, we encourage you to bring your own laptop with the trial RM program or full version loaded. And bring some completed Family Group Sheets and family records you may have on those ancestors to be entered on your RM.

**Please RSVP for this class, email Bonnie at bonnie.samuel@icloud.com**

Logo design by Karen Patee David

## STORY COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

**Send Membership dues to PO Box 692, Ames, IA 50010**
**Or pay the Treasurer at a SCGS meeting.**
**Make checks payable to Story County Genealogical Society.**

**Membership is ____$10 per person OR____$15 per family each year**

**Dues paid after April 1 will be for balance of the calendar year**

**MEMBER OF IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY_____YES____NO**

**NAME:**_____

**ADDRESS:**_____

**CITY:**_____**STATE:**_____

**PHONE:**_____**EMAIL:**_____

*SCGS NEWS*

**Story County Genealogical Society**

**PO Box 692**

**Ames IA 50010**

Logo Design by Karen Pattee David

# SCGS NEWS

"Helping You Connect With Your Heritage"

Story County Genealogical Society

PO Box 692
Ames, Iowa
50010

www.storygenes.com
e-mail: storygenes@gmail.com
Facebook.com/storygenes

November 2016
Vol 49, Issue 8

## President's Message

So many learning opportunities in the month of October. Started off with the Iowa Genealogy Society conference. Joshua Taylor and Alice Hoyt Veen had lots to teach us. Mary Lohr showed us so many things we can learn at and thru the Library at our regular SCGS meeting. New members asked so many interesting questions at their first class. Dennis Allen and Chris Nagla are always interesting to listen to and learn from. Got to listen to them in Stanhope. I also attended an Iowa Museum Conference where also learned lots of new ideas. Also the Director of the Iowa Gold Star Museum was in attendance which reminded me that history and genealogy go hand in hand. Alice Hoyt Veen was very interesting at Genealogy Plus. A real case scenario really puts things in the right perspective. I probably forgot something but I am attempting to soak everything in and put it to good use.

**Bring "goodies" to share**

**at our November meeting.**

*Nancy*

## NEXT PROGRAM

**Story County Genealogical Society, Ames Public Library**

**November 14, 2016, 6:30 PM, Annual Meeting—Election of Officers; Holiday Treats!**

**December 2016, no SCGS Meeting; Genealogy Plus will host a help session on December 21 at the library.**

**January 9, 2017, 6:30 PM, "Shared Stories" Teresa Larson, Ames Historical Society.**

## Genealogy Plus

**November 15, 2016, Roots Magic—Getting Started, 10 AM—noon, Ames Library (see p. 5 for more information).**

**November 16, 2016, Great Depression Years, Lisa Ossian, Professor of History, DMACC, 10 AM—noon, Ames Library.**

**December 21, 2016, Holiday Help Session, with treats, Ames Library.**

## INSIDE

Mary Lohr, Using the Library Catolog. . . . 2
Minutes from last meeting. . . . . .2
IGS Announcements, Fall Conference . . . 3
Genealogy Proof Standard. . . . . 4
Genealogy Plus, Oct 6, Beginning Class . 4
Roots Magic, Getting Started. . . . . 5
Youth Genealogy Research. . . . . .6

## Minutes from last meeting, Oct 10, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. in the Ames Public Library auditorium by President Nancy Long. There were twenty-one members and guests present.

Those attending introduced themselves by telling how they first started doing genealogy and most of us had started by being given "the box" of family pictures or books or other treasures.

The September 2016 minutes were approved as printed in the October newsletter. The treasurer's report was given by Mary Ausborn.

Library report: Mary Lohr will be submitting a book order list to the library in January so please give her any suggestions.

Bonnie Samuel reported that the Genealogy Plus meeting on October 19th will be given by Alice Hoyt Veen on Genealogy Proof Standards. Ames Middle School students have formed a Genealogy Club named "Who Am I?" following a class in genealogy. We may be asked to help with further classes for them, and they have worked hard on cleaning gravestones in the Ames Municipal Cemetery. There will be a Roots Magic workshop on November 15th given by Dennis Allen. Bonnie asked for a show of hands of those interested in Roots Magic ongoing sessions, with six responding. A beginning basic Genealogy class was started last week and there will be more due to the interest.

Old Business: The nominating committee of Merlene Whisenand and Gwenna Jacobson submitted the following slate of officers for the coming year: President, Nancy Long; Vice-President, Bonnie Samuel; Secretary, Katie Pattee; Treasurer, Mary Ausborn; Historian, Paul Martsching; Publicity, Gwenna Jacobson and Newsletter editor, Dick Cooper. Voting will be next month.

New Business: President Nancy announced a Genealogy workshop in Stanhope at the Stanhope Community Center, Saturday October 14th, free, ten to four. Lynette Spicer introduced our speaker, Mary Lohr, a long-time librarian, who gave a program on "Using the Library Catalog," with lots of tips for current users. The meeting was adjourned.

*Katie Pattee,* Secretary

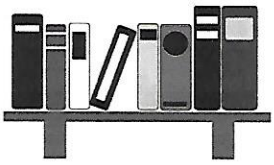
## Using the Library Catalog

Mary Lohr, Genealogist and SCGS Librarian, spoke at the October meeting on using the Library Online Catalog. She distributed a handout (available on *storygenes.com* website) with hints for the Ames Public Library in particular, but also covering other library sites. Most libraries have a website, but in some cases, it may be necessary to access the city's site to search its **departments, help, search**, or **Ask Us** segments.

Most libraries offer Interlibrary Loan, and the local library will assist in placing an order for books not available locally. If the information is in a reference section, it may not be available for checkout, and it will be necessary to actually go to the library. *Worldcat.org* is a free international source to check if another area library has the material you want. Among other online possibilities are: *Family Search.org., Google* and *Google Preview*, *Gengophers.com* (to search for books), and university libraries. Most sites have clickable links that provide additional categories and sources. It may be helpful to start with a broad search and narrow it by clicking on more specific categories.

Some libraries have a subscription to Ancestry (accessible only while at Ames Public Library) or Heritage Quest (accessible from your home computer or with any internet connection). Mary emphasized that all information will not be in the online catalog, and librarians are very willing to assist if asked. In many libraries, newspapers, obituaries, phonebooks, and other items may not be listed, but are available in the library's collections.

The possibilities are endless. Librarians are there to help. Do not be afraid to ask for assistance. But hours are limited in local libraries, and online sources are convenient for those 3 AM family search sessions that genealogists love!



# IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
## News and Announcements

### FALL CONFERENCE 2016

Three presenters, D. Joshua Taylor, Alice Hoyt Veen, and Mike Vogt, occupied two full days at the Fall Conference, October 7-8, held at Toad Valley Golf and Event Center, Des Moines. It was an educational and entertaining event with 140 registrants.

D. Joshua Taylor was keynote speaker. You might know Joshua as host of The Genealogy Roadshow on Public Broadcasting. His biographical summary reflects his view of genealogy—"He believes family history and genealogy should be about more than just names, dates, and documents, but should instead tell the stories of our ancestors and the extraordinary lives they led."

Joshua emphasized the importance of developing "something to pass on to future generations of genealogists." He stressed managing time wisely, developing manageable goals, prioritizing tasks, planning, and keeping a research log (important for keeping track of your research progress). The years 1790 to 1830 (The Gap), as the country sought to develop a system for keeping records, was a period of change—Westward Expansion and changes in religious affiliation affected recording of marriages, births, and deaths. Thus, histories became embedded in church records, early American Imprints, tax and land records, existing genealogies, newspapers, etc. He emphasized that a finished project doesn't need to be an entire book. Start from the beginning and edit as you go. More information can be added as it is found. His golden rule for research is: for each hour of research at a facility, spend at least one

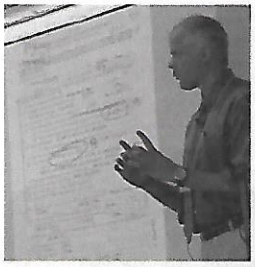
Cont'd next col

*Cont'd from previous col*

hour in preparation prior to the visit and one to two hours of analysis after the visit. He also stressed labeling all photos, including digital and noting negative searches as well as what is found--(record where you looked and did not find what you wanted).

Library Catalogs received considerable attention in his presentation. One session was devoted to "Law in Genealogy" and stressed the fact that laws are not confined to courts and criminal proceedings but are intended to pertain to all of us. Consequently, knowing legal ramifications of our ancestors' lives is important. Joshua's final session was devoted to modern technology for genealogists.

Alice Hoyt Veen, Certified Genealogist, spoke on the use of land records, using her publication, *Land Records to the Rescue*. In her biographical summary she states, "Land research can trace your family through time and place and provide insights into your ancestors' life experiences." In some cases land records may be the only way to track an ancestor. Clues to ownership are: family tradition, census schedules, wills and probates, tax records, and local plat maps.



Mike Vogt, Curator of the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum, Camp Dodge, spoke on records of Iowa men and women who have served in the military. Veterans' records from the 19th century to the present are available at the Museum. If not there, the Department of Veterans Affairs in Des Moines might have them.

## Genealogy Plus Group

***...taking you to the next level in your family research!***

**Meeting 3rd Wednesday each month at the Ames Public Library**

Genealogy Plus is being sponsored by the Story County Genealogy Society and the Ames Public Library, 3rd Wednesday of each month, September— May. Classes are 10 AM to noon in the Ames Public Library auditorium—free and open to the public.

Bring your computer if you like to each session. We will have time at each class for you to explore the skills learned in the session with helpers to assist you too.

Coordinators:
Lynette Spicer
Bonnie Samuel

Contact us at storygenes@gmail.com

+ + + + +

## Basic Skills: Beginning Genealogy Class Held October 6th

Genealogy Plus has brought many new faces to our classes, and they are eager to learn! In response to requests for more help to get started, we held a genealogy research basic skills class at the library on October 6th. Bonnie Samuel taught this class of enthusiastic learners, covering the process of setting up the foundation for research: who are you researching and what do you want to know.

Cont'd next col

*Cont'd from previous column*

What was to be one class, has now turned into a "series!" We will likely meet three class sessions and cover:

- genealogy terms defined
- record keeping forms and process
- documentation, citing sources
- review of organizational filing systems
- gathering family information and interviewing relatives
- introduction to genealogy software
- searching for records overview

We will repeat the Basic Skills class series after the holidays. Dates to be announced soon.

Bonnie Samuel

## GENEALOGY PROOF STANDARD

At the October Genealogy Plus session, Alice Veen, Certified Genealogist, shared her expertise in applying the Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS) to researching, documenting, and writing genealogical information. GPS is a tool to document research that answers the questions of **Who, What, When, and Where**. By using GPS, *research is thorough, the findings are credible, and the shared results will stand the test of time.* (Alice Veen, www.prairierootsresearch.com)

The first step is to decide what questions you want to answer about the person or family you are researching and develop a plan to document the data. Alice suggests keeping the initial search plan basic and simple. The 2014 book, *Genealogy Standards, 50th Anniversary Edition, Washington, D.C.: Board for Certification of Genealogists*, explains best practices for genealogical work and identifies 83 common-sense standards. You want multiple, independent sources for each fact. One informant may be giving the information on numerous sources, and that information could be wrong. Anything can be a source if it contains information, but the source can be right or wrong, or it can have both correct and incorrect information. Alice suggests analyzing one source at a time.

Cont'd on pg 6

# Genealogy Plus!

**"RootsMagic - Getting Started" on Tuesday, November 15th**

10 am - noon, Ames Public Library Auditorium

Dennis Allen will lead you through the basics of this excellent genealogy software including the data entry process to inserting pictures and documents. With this class you will leave with skills to continue your family tree and explore the many features of the program.

We are working on setting up a RootsMagic User Group at the library with monthly meetings to learn more and find out about new features too....more on that coming soon.

While we will have the library's computers for this session, we encourage you to bring your own laptop with the trial RM program or full version loaded. And bring some completed Family Group Sheets and family records you may have on those ancestors to be entered on your RM.

**Please RSVP for this class, email Bonnie at bonnie.samuel@icloud.com**

+ + + +

## Youth Genealogy Research Series Begins in November!

Ames Middle School students *requested* a genealogy class and it has become a reality. Why? How did this come about?

Dennis Allen, popular speaker at Genealogy Plus, taught a cemetery stone cleaning class last year at the request of Dianna Sheldon, Ames Middle School teacher. The students became so interested in the stories, partly told by the gravestones, of the people buried in the cemetery, they became more and more curious about their own family histories.

The six part Youth series will begin in November and is a happy project co-sponsored by Story County Genealogical Society, Ames Public Library and the Ames Middle School. The classes will be taught by Dennis Allen, Dianna Sheldon and other teachers. An invitation will go out to Middle Schoolers in the surrounding communities too.

Dianna Sheldon's students were charged with coming up with a name for their requested class and it will be:

"Who Am I? Who are You?

Bonnie Samuel

(Proof Standard) Cont'd from pg 4

Compare and contrast findings and evaluate the sources and evidence. Present credible, written conclusions when conflicts in evidence have been resolved.

Here are a few things to keep in mind when searching official records and censuses. For Iowa, birth records began to be recorded in July 1880. The last state census in Iowa was 1925. For federal censuses, each census has its own set of instructions, but census takers may not have followed them uniformly. In the 1940 census, informants were identified, but in other instances, it may not be known who provided the information. In the case of a name change, there should be an amended birth or court record at the courthouse. Sometimes notation is made on the original record of a later amendment.

After adequate researching, documenting sources, and analyzing what you have found, write up the reasonable conclusions to answer the research question. Genealogy is fun--but not fun when you are wrong.

Marilyn Peterson

## Ames Public Library Genealogy Section

If you have not visited the genealogy section at our Ames Public Library, put it on your "to do list!" You'll find the genealogy section on the west wall on the second floor of the library.

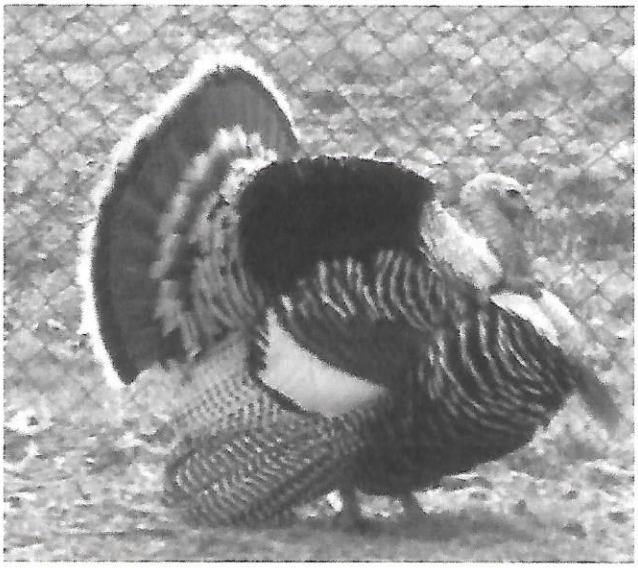
You will find a wide selection of genealogical books and materials, including resources from many states (Iowa too), how-to books, and others covering a range of topics important to family researchers.

There are also reference materials at the Adult Services desk, including census microfilms for Iowa.

Bonnie Samuel

## SCGS OFFICERS

| | |
|---|---|
| **President** | **Nancy Long** |
| **Vice President** | **Bonnie Samuel** |
| **Treasurer** | **Mary Ausborn** |
| **Secretary** | **Katie Pattee** |
| **Historian** | **Paul Martsching** |
| **Publicity** | **Gwen Jacobson (pro-Tem)** |
| **Librarian** | **Mary Lohr** |
| **Newsletter Editors** | **Buckley & Marilyn Peterson** |



# HAPPY THANKSGIVING

**The IGS Capital Campaign**

To pay off the mortgage, please consider making a donation to ensure the continued vital work of IGS, 628 Grand, Des Moines, Iowa, 50309-1924.

## STORY COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Logo design by Karen Patee David

**Send Membership dues to PO Box 692, Ames, IA 50010**
**Or pay the Treasurer at a SCGS meeting.**
**Make checks payable to Story County Genealogical Society.**

**Membership is ____$10 per person OR____$15 per family each year**

**Dues paid after April 1 will be for balance of the calendar year**

**MEMBER OF IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY_____YES____NO**

NAME:_____

ADDRESS:_____

CITY:_____STATE:_____

PHONE:_____EMAIL:_____

*SCGS NEWS*

**Story County Genealogical Society**

**PO Box 692**

**Ames IA 50010**